

# the chronicle

## Group reunites

Support team celebrates with a 10 course reunion

Page 4



## Teen queen

Jessica sets sights on title after reaching semi-finals

Page 14



## Debut triple

Heathens' trio of new signings in first outing

Page 44



## Thieves con old man out of £2,000

HEARTLESS conmen tricked a 77-year-old Dudley man into believing they were water officials – and stole £2,000 while he was asked to keep an eye on a tap.

Dudley police are appealing for information that might help to catch the two men, one of whom was wearing a distinctive bowler-style hat and brown waistcoat.

They struck at the man's home in Jervis Close, Pensnett, claiming they needed to check his water supply.

One of the men ran taps in the kitchen and asked the victim to do the same in the bathroom. But while the pensioner was upstairs the pair rummaged through the house and stole £2,000.

Investigating officer, DC Tony Jones, of Dudley CID, said: "The men approached the victim's address just after 3pm and stated they were from the 'water board'."

"Unfortunately the victim didn't ask for identification or ask any questions over their authenticity. All householders need to be mindful that water boards, or indeed gas or electricity boards, no longer exist so alarm bells should start ringing if anyone claims to be from a utility 'board'."

One thief was a stocky, white, man in his 30s with short blond hair and his accomplice is slightly taller and aged about 40."

## Mast plan could fail

PLANS for a phone mast next to a water tower in Wordsley are on the verge of being scrapped after more than 1,300 objections.

Site owner Severn Trent has asked phone giants O2 and Vodafone to pull out following the protests.

Residents have been battling the plans to build the 49ft mast next to Friar's Gorse water tower. They said Severn Trent's actions as "positive" but vowed to continue their fight.

O2 and Vodafone say they are now discussing the issue.

# £10m BUS DEPOT FOR MERRY HILL

by John Corser

**TRANSPORT bosses are to invest £10 million in Merry Hill's bus station. New eco-friendly buses will be introduced and bus lanes and gates installed to allow the vehicles to jump traffic queues. The station itself will also be extended to increase capacity by 25 per cent.**

## Plumber, 53, avoided tax for 10 years

A BLACK Country plumber who had more than £140,000 at his home has been jailed for 12 months for not paying income tax for 10 years.

David Williams, who ran a business called Dave The Plumber, kept the money in sweet tins and safety deposit boxes. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. They were found throughout his three bedroom semi in Walton Close, Rowley Regis.

The court heard he had avoided paying more than £90,000 in income tax and National Insurance.

Investigators carried out the raid at his home after the 53-year-old ignored a final warning to submit a tax return.

Prosecutor Miss Madhu Rai said: "He had deliberately avoided paying income tax or making National Insurance contributions for 10 years while working as a plumber."

"He was mainly paid in cash which was either put into various bank accounts or hidden in a range of different parts of his house."

He had carried out at least 8,133 jobs as a registered gas fitter during that period generating more than £300,000 profit on which he should have paid £90,956 tax and National Insurance, the court was told.

Mr Graham Russell, defending, said: "He turned a blind eye to his tax affairs and that turned into dishonesty that was about as unsophisticated as it gets." The defendant admitted evading income tax.

Half of the £10m will come from the Government and the rest will be funded by Merry Hill owners Westfield, Centro, National Express West Midlands and Rotala.

The project also aims to improve bus services going to and from the giant shopping complex and neighbouring Waterfront Business Park, where 8,000 people work.

Brierley Hill councillor Zafar Islam said: "Hopefully improving services around Waterfront will encourage new businesses to move in or, encourage employers who have left to rethink their decision to leave."

"This will help more people, especially the elderly, access Brierley Hill and the Merry Hill Shopping Centre."

"Merry Hill is one of the biggest shopping centres in the area so it is important to make it as accessible as possible. There has been a lot of investment in other bus stations in the borough, such as Stourbridge, so it is good news that Merry Hill's will be improved, too."

### Reliability

Part of the scheme involves new bus lanes and bus gates in The Boulevard to improve journey times by five minutes.

There will also be a new bus-only highway link from the A4036 to improve journey times by up to eight minutes at peak times and improve reliability of services.

The improved bus station will have real time information for passengers at all stands, improved waiting facilities and lighting, better interchange and walk routes.

There will be improvements to a minimum of 40 bus stops along eight strategic routes to the shopping centre.

It is aimed at increasing the number of people travelling to the centre and business park by bus by 15 per cent by the end of 2015.

The current Merry Hill bus station receives the lowest customer satisfaction ratings in the West Midlands.

● Delight – page 2

## Church graves vandalised



Church treasurer John Harcourt surveys the wreckage left behind by yobs

Historic graves, some more than 200 years old, have been knocked over by yobs at a Black Country churchyard in an act of "mindless vandalism".

Nine crosses and two headstones were pulled from the ground and pushed over at St Edmund King and Martyr Church, Castle Hill, Dudley.

Church staff say the cost of repairs will not be covered by insurance – and they now face a struggle to track down relatives of the deceased.

The damage was discovered by church warden Anne Mullaney. No-one has been buried for 150 years in the grounds of the church, built in 1724. Church treasurer John Harcourt said: "This is disrespectful to the families of the people buried there, and these graves are part of the history of the town."

Insurers have told them the graves are



Mr Harcourt takes a closer look at the damage at St Edmund King and Martyr Church

the responsibility of the plot owners – but a contribution will be made to make the stones safe. Police are appealing for anyone with information on 0300 3333000.

## £3.6m to improve council housing

A TOTAL of £3.6 million is to be spent fitting more than 500 council homes in Kates Hill with new windows, boilers and loft insulation.

The work follows a similar project on the Priory estate.

Work is already under way on two trial homes and the whole programme of improvements is expected to be completed in December. It is hoped it will cut the price of tenants' energy bills.

A total of 133 homes will get new windows. Wall insulation will be installed into 331 properties, almost 150 boilers will be replaced and loft insulation will be installed at around 200 homes as part of the Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP).

A survey has been carried out on each property to determine the work required and residents have been contacted to inform them.

Councillor Adrian Turner, said: "We have enjoyed successful CESP schemes across the borough over the last couple of years, including Pensnett and Priory."

"This scheme makes a real difference to our tenants as not only are their homes more energy efficient, they save money on their heating bills as well."

"I urge tenants to go and view the two pilot properties so that they can see the kind of work which will be done."

## High Court fight ahead

BLACK Country Living Museum bosses are preparing for a High Court fight to evict travellers from their land. A possession order was granted by Dudley County Court on Monday meaning the eight caravans and a motorhome had to leave the overflow car park in Tipton Road immediately.

But museum chiefs said there has still been "no sign" the travellers were moving so instructed their solicitors to apply to the High Court.

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## CONTENTS

Peter Rhodes	4
Letters	7
Memory Lane	10
Club News	18
Puzzle Page	30
TV Listings	27-30
Property	31-33
Motoring	40-42
Classified	34-39
Sport	43-44

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# Anxious wait for MPs over shake-up

MPs face an anxious 18-month wait to find out whether they will need to compete against each other to keep their seats.

Consultation on an overhaul that could see the number of MPs cut from 650 to 600 is about to end.

Three MPs in the Black Country could find their seats abolished if a new electoral map is created. The Boundary Commission for England

is accepting comments until April 3. It will come back in October next year with the formal proposals to Parliament for a vote.

In Sandwell, MPs could have an equal claim to each other's constituencies. A new Wednesbury seat would be made up by half of the current West Bromwich East and half by the current West Bromwich West. The rest of West Bromwich West

would come under Dudley East. It leaves Labour MPs Tom Watson, Adrian Bailey and Ian Austin potentially battling over two seats.

Mr Bailey, who would have an equal claim to Wednesbury and to Dudley East, said: "I have not yet decided where I will stand. I have the highest regard for both Tom Watson and Ian Austin and if this situation does arise I know we shall

all conduct ourselves in the appropriate manner"

Dudley South MP Chris Kelly said the review will cut the cost of politics by reducing the number of MPs and the size of the Commons and save £12 million a year.

Tory James Morris would see his Halesowen and Rowley Regis seat split between Stourbridge and Dudley South – both now Tory-held.

# Delight at £10m station scheme

THE £10 MILLION revamp of the bus station at Merry Hill Shopping Centre has been welcomed as a much-needed boost for Brierley Hill.

Councillor Zafar Islam, who represents Brierley Hill, said: "This will help more people, especially the elderly, access Brierley Hill and the Merry Hill Shopping Centre. Merry Hill is one of the biggest shopping centres in the area so it is important to make it as accessible as possible."

"There has been a lot of investment in other bus stations in the borough, such as Stourbridge, so it is good news that Merry Hill's will be improved too."

The £5m Government funding is part of a £101m national package to local authorities to encourage the use of more eco-friendly buses, reduce congestion and upgrade services. The rest of the money will come from Merry Hill owners Westfield, Centro, National Express West Midlands and Rotala.

The Merry Hill bus station improvements are intended to increase capacity by 25 per cent.

Westfield is putting in £1.5m, Centro £1.3m and bus companies National Express and Rotala £2.2m towards new buses.

# Children set for mission

MORE than 70 students and staff from Ridgewood High School, Stourbridge, have set off on a mission to Gambia.

They will take useful items donated for villagers of Kitisilo and Half Dye, as well as leading a variety of activities in local schools.

Fellow pupils and parents have given goods such as art and craft tools, pens, crayons, footballs, hair accessories, small toys, early reading books and wool for Project Gambia 2012.

# Post office plea

A POST office could return to Quarry Bank after bosses vowed to look into the effect its controversial closure had three years ago after Stourbridge MP Margot James raised the matter with Postal Affairs Minister Norman Lamb. Ms James urged him to consider reopening a branch in the area.

# Puppy love! How Carol's passion aids guide dogs



Carol Evans pictured 30 years ago with her first dog, Ruby, and her first litter of puppies. Carol Evans has raised around 250 puppies to help blind and partially sighted people over the past three decades. And the grandmother-of-six has her hands full at the moment with the latest litter of puppies born to her dog Clare in recently.

By Andrew Turton

Mrs Evans had always had a passion for dogs but 30 years ago decided to get involved helping to train up puppies for the charity Guide Dogs.

Her first dog, a pure-breed Labrador called Ruby, became a much-loved family pet and lived at their Stourbridge home for 16 years.

Mrs Evans has also cared for descendants of Ruby including her daughter Joni, granddaughter Callie and great granddaughter Imogen.

"I love dog breeding and doing it for Guide Dogs, I know that the dogs will be well looked after and loved," the 57-year-old said.

"They are all individuals and my grandchildren love to see them all when they come around to visit."

The latest brood of eight puppies were born to her three-year-old Labrador-retriever cross Clare in the past few days.

They are being fed four times a day at the moment on a dry food diet to give them the nutrients needed to help them grow up healthy.

Most guide dog puppies are born in volunteers' homes with support given from the Guide Dog's National Breeding Centre in Royal Leamington Spa.

The housewife, whose role is known as a brood bitch holder, said they are expected to stay at the family home until they are six or seven weeks old.

They are then handed to puppy walkers across the country who train them for the

next 12 months. Pups need to get used to as many different sounds, smells and textures as possible, to prepare them for their future role.

Trips out on buses and trains and into town centres are also invaluable to introduce the young dogs to people, she says. All the puppies then learn their final guide dog skills and the volunteers see if they can be paired with new companions.

Mrs Evans added: "I would say that a child is definitely more of a handful than 10 puppies."

"The puppies grow so quickly, they're helpless newborns to start with but once they open their eyes at 10 to 14 days old, they are up and about and independent within six weeks. Then they're off."

## Rewarding

Mrs Evans, who lives with her husband, Michael, has looked after eight guide dog mums over the years.

She also cared for two German Shepherds called Tessa and Wheat and their litters had also become guide dogs. But she says she does not get upset as each puppy leaves the nest.

She said: "It is such a rewarding experience as you have the joy of the young dogs and then the joy of them going off to greater things in the future."

For information on becoming a Guide Dog breeder call 0845 371 7771.



Carol Evans with her latest dog, Clare



Feeding time – Clare feeds her eight puppies

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## Date set for work on pipes

A £500,000 project to replace outdated gas pipes with new plastic ones in Halesowen will get under way on April 2, it has been announced.

The work, being carried out by National Grid, will take six months and two roads in Hurst Green will both be made one-way during the scheme.

At the same time, South Staffs Water workers will be replacing an old cast iron water main.

Engineers will start work to replace the old gas mains running along Gorsty Hill Road and Coombes Road.

### Busy

A week later, South Staffs Water will begin 20-week project to replace their main.

National Grid project manager, Stan Best, said: "This project will be a short term inconvenience for a long term benefit."

"We appreciate that there is never a good time to close such a busy road, but we have worked very closely with South Staffs Water and Dudley Council to co-ordinate our projects which will help to keep disruption to minimum."

Dudley Council, which will also undertake street maintenance works at the same time, has thanked people for their patience.

## Lots of fun is available

ACTIVITIES have been planned at Dudley Leisure Centre for youngsters this Easter.

Football matches, interactive dance mats, indoor bikes, computer games and T-shirt design workshops are among those on offer at the centre in Wellington Road. Events run from April 2 to April 4 from 9am to 4pm and are suitable for children aged eight to 14.

The activities must be pre-booked costing £10 per day and children will need to have a packed lunch and refreshments with them.

## Nature ramble

WALKERS can get their boots on and enjoy a stroll through the nature reserve at Cotwall End, in Sedgley will take place on Saturday from 2p to 4.30pm. The Friends of Cotwall End Valley will lead tlooking for the first signs of spring. Meet at the Brockwood Animal Sanctuary car park, off Catholic Lane. For details call 07849 804242.

# Parents win autistic son's travel cost fight

THE parents of an autistic boy have won their legal battle with Dudley Council over free transport to and from school.

The council offered to pay travel costs for the six-year-old but only if he attended the nearest suitable school.

But that stance was challenged by his parents in 2009 and tribunal judges ruled the council should provide transport to the school his parents feel can best meet his needs – about a mile further from home.

They said the small increase in cost – £195-a-year for shared and £312-a-year for individual transport – was not unreasonable, given the educational advantages for

the boy, and was not an "inefficient" use of council funds.

The council challenged the ruling and took the case to the Civil Appeal Court in London. But last week its arguments were rejected by three senior judges.

Lord Justice Davis said the stance taken by the council was open to "very serious objections" and the tribunal's decision was right, for the right reasons.

The judge, sitting with the Master of the Rolls, Lord Neuberger, and Lord Justice Richards added the increased transport bill could not, in this case, justify "overriding" the parents' preference of where their son

goes to school. In his ruling, the judge said the boy – referred to in court only as "J" – suffers from autism and moderate learning difficulties. Although "happy and affectionate at home", his behaviour can sometimes be challenging.

His speech and language are seriously impaired and the judge added: "At pre-school, he found it difficult to follow an adult led agenda and was described as living in his own world."

The Appeal Court judges agreed with the "very significant advantage" of sending the boy to his parents' chosen school outweighed the extra transport costs.

The court's ruling means parents' chosen school will appear on their son's statement of special educational needs and Dudley must pay whatever it costs to get him to and from the school gates each day.

Richard McManus, QC, representing the council, had earlier argued: "Dudley spends approximately £2.5 million on special educational needs transport each year."

"The high cost of providing transport explains why a right of preference as to placement does not confer a corresponding entitlement to transport to that preferred placement if there are nearer alternative schools."

# Thief who stole £4,200 in cigarettes is sent to prison

A MAN who raided a petrol station in Dudley and stole £4,200 of cigarettes is now behind bars after being jailed for 14 months. Adam Smith raided Wall Heath Service Station in Kingswinford in September.

by Laura Blyth

He got away in a Subaru Impreza, which had been stolen from a house in Dudley almost two weeks earlier.

Police arrested 23-year-old Smith, who was on licence, after finding traces of his blood at the service station. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard last week.

The court heard how Smith, of Oak Park Road, Wordsley, was on licence for drugs possession when he committed the offences.

Mr Rhyddian James, prosecuting, told the court Smith and another unknown person broke into the service station in the middle of the night.

"They made off with £4,200 of cigarettes and caused £2,000 of damage to the shutters," Mr James said.

"CCTV inside showed there were two people who were masked."

"A blood swab was taken from the scene and it matched the DNA of the defendant."

The £4,500 Subaru, taken in a burglary at a house in Beech Road, Dudley, on August 26 was recovered by police in Wordsley. It had false plates.

In his police interview, Smith denied any involvement in the burglary at the service station, saying he was in bed asleep when it happened.

### Cocaine

He tested positive for cocaine upon his arrest.

Mr Roy Paterson, defending, told the court: "He has expressed remorse over this."

"He blames everything on his lack of employment. He is desperate to work. He realises he can't go on this way."

Smith admitted burglary and allowing himself to be carried in a stolen car.

Recorder Michael Elsom told Smith: "You are no stranger to this court."

"This offence was committed while you were on licence."

## No jail for threat woman

A WOMAN from Dudley who threatened another woman with violence unless she dropped charges against a friend has been spared further time behind bars. Recorder Martin Elsom told Susan Scott people who interfered with the law process usually ended up spending a long time in custody.

But he ruled at Wolverhampton Crown Court that because it had been some time since she had last been in trouble she could keep her freedom. Scott, aged 33, of Lake Street, Lower Gornal, admitted witness intimidation and was given a year's jail term suspended for two years, placed on supervision for 18 months and ordered to attend an alcohol education and a substance abuse group.



Elle Gjoka, aged 10, and astronomy teacher Mark Townley at the science event

## Students lift their sights for science

SCHOOLCHILDREN in Dudley have been learning about astronomy and made their own earthquake-proof buildings using pasta and sweets during a science day.

More than 40 pupils, aged 10 and 11, from seven primary schools in the borough were invited to Holly Hall Academy, Dudley, for the activities.

They learned about natural disasters and their impact on human life, including last year's devastating magnitude 9 earthquake and tsunamis in Japan.

### Cloud

They discussed how to make earthquake-proof buildings and made their own using spaghetti and jelly babies.

After a St Patrick's Day-themed lunch in the school hall, the afternoon session included building a cloud chamber to observe evidence of cosmic rays.

The activities were organised by teachers Steve Jabore and Mark Townley, who run the school's sciences club.

Mr Jabore said: "Using telescopes they also looked for remnants of the solar flares that affected earth."

## NEWS in brief

### Dustbin solves prickly problem

KEEPERS at Dudley Zoo faced a prickly poser when they faced moving three crested porcupines to a new enclosure.

Assistant curator Richard Brown explained that, if disturbed, crested porcupines use muscles in their back to raise their quills to make themselves look bigger.

"When this happens they charge backwards towards their 'enemy' and can cause serious injury," he said. But the keepers persuaded them to crawl into a dustbin and then gently carried them to their new enclosure.

### Children can get it the swim

PEOPLE are being urged to take the plunge and learn to swim this Easter at Halesowen Leisure Centre.

The centre in Pool Road will be running intensive swimming lessons for beginners and improvers.

A five-day course of intensive lessons for beginners aged four and over and one for children aged five and over who can swim at least 10 metres.

Both courses will run from April 2 to 6. There is a fee for the sessions. For details telephone the baths on 01384 812800.

### Holiday football coaching offered

FOOTBALL coaching sessions will be held during the Easter holidays at Goals Soccer Centre, Dudley, from April 2 to 13 between 9am and 3pm.

General manager Gareth Cheadle said: "This is a great opportunity for youngsters to develop their skills over the holiday times." For details call Goals Soccer Centre on 0121 561 3000.

### Libraries to get new computers

ALMOST 50 computers are being installed in libraries across Dudley to replace outdated machines to allow visitors to access the library catalogue and the internet.

The remaining PCs which were new in 2009 are also being updated with new software and additional memory.

### Police meeting

A POLICE and Communities Together meeting will be held for residents of the Belle Vale area of Halesowen on April 4 at Windsor High School, starting at 7pm.

Could you help her to make sense of it all?

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THE BEST  
OF PETER  
RHODES

BY MY reckoning, based on the schedule issued this week, the Olympic torch will be passing through drought-stricken East Anglia at about the time the region is officially declared a fire hazard.

DRACULA'S Castle. Does it need a revamp?

CAN we please ditch the silly old stereotype of all pensioners being poor? Many, of course, are hard-up. But thousands of retired folk are among the most financially secure people in the country. That is why Chancellor George Osborne is levying his "granny tax" on some of the better-off, and good luck to him. Even at my great age, my sympathies are with younger people desperate to get started in life, not with pensioners who think that having two Saga cruises a year is some sort of human right.

RIGHT decision, wrong reason. Judge Aiden Marron ordered a Muslim woman wearing a full veil to withdraw from a jury in London on the grounds that he needed to see her face while he was talking to the jury. But surely the real issue goes deeper than a judge's desire to see the faces he is addressing. It is that every English jury comprises 12 people and the system works only if the jury throughout the trial is the same 12 people. The juror in the burqa could be Surinder on Monday but Nigel on Tuesday.

THAT great national treasure, Nicholas Parsons, now 88, complains that age is a target for gags by people who would never dream of making jokes about gender, race or disability. But age is not the only free-fire zone for comics. People with ginger hair are still regarded as fair game. What a blessing it is that you can be old or ginger but rarely both.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Fence at fire station to combat metal thieves

SECURITY fencing will be installed around Halesowen Fire Station when it closes amid fears it will become a target for vandals and metal thieves.

Crews are due to leave the Hagley Road station on April 1 after bids to safeguard its future failed. They will mark the closure of the station with a final parade at the end of the night shift at 8am.

## School's pollution lessons

CLIMATE change lessons have taught children at a Dudley school how air pollution is created by cars.

Roberts Primary School, in Lower Gornal, held a series of car emission tests to mark events in climate change week.

The school, in Robert Street, is the site for Dudley's environment zone and hosts lessons for children from the borough.

Environmental protection officers from Dudley Council demonstrated to children how petrol and diesel cars generate air pollution.

It was hoped the lesson, for pupils aged between six and 11, would raise awareness on the benefits of electric cars.

The news comes as fire-fighters who have manned the site over the years were hailed for their efforts and commitment to safeguarding the area.

Plans were already under way to relocate firefighters to other stations nearby.

Halesowen Fire Station Station Commander Mark Lawton confirmed the decision to secure the site would protect it while discussions about the possible sale of the land continue.

Mr Lawton, speaking to councillors at Halesowen Area Committee last week, added: "The building will be made secure before perimeter fencing is erected soon after the closure."

Bosses have already said they do not want the building becoming an eyesore.

Halesowen area committee chairman, Councillor Ray Burston paid tribute to the work of crews.

"Even though we will not have fire crews present in Halesowen any more, we know they will still have crews taking care of people around here," he said.

## Support group celebration



Left, Expert Patients Programme manager Clare Evans and Dudley Cancer Support manager Chris Barron with people who attended the reunion

DOZENS of patients and others affected by cancer have been reunited at a support group in Dudley.

Cancer Support at The White House, and staff from NHS Dudley held a reunion for people who have attended its expert patients programme to mark the 10th course to be held at the centre in Ednam Road.

More than 80 people have completed one of the 10 courses held since February 2009.

They were all invited to a coffee morning to celebrate the skills gained in managing their cancer diagnosis as well as catching up with friends.

White House manager, Chris Barron, said: "We thought this would be a nice way of celebrating with the patients and carers we have helped over the last few years and give them a chance to meet up with old friends, as well as making new ones."

The next course will run for six weeks from June 12. To book call 01384 231232.

## Reveller had knife hidden in his pants

A MAN who headed to a nightclub with a knife clipped to his boxer shorts as "protection" has been ordered to do 200 hours of community service.

Michael Francis was a passenger in a car that was pulled over by police in King Street, Dudley on March 10 at about 1.10am.

Francis, who admitted possessing an offensive weapon and possessing a class B drug, was given a 12-month community order at Dudley Magistrates Court.

After smelling, cannabis officers searched the car and Francis, of Sutton Crescent, West Bromwich, was suspected of "concealing something".

When he was searched at the police station he admitted having a knife clipped to his boxers, Mrs Maxine Jarrouse, prosecuting, said. Cannabis was also found.

Mr Mandla Bhomra, defending, said Francis had bought the knife from a fishing shop and did not know it was illegal.

## Contract picked

DUDLEY Council has appointed the contractor to build the borough's £6 million archives and local history centre. Bosses said Midlands-based G F Tomlinson have been chosen to build the centre on the site of the old Brierley Crystal building on Tipton Road.

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## Closure of milk depot to cost jobs

DAIRY Crest will shut its depot in Stourbridge next month with the loss of up to five jobs.

The firm today said the closure was because of a drop in demand for milk to be delivered to the door.

Milkmen based at the site in Rufford Road will be transferred to the company's depots in Wolverhampton and West Bromwich.

Dairy Crest spokesman Arthur Reeves said there would be a "small number of redundancies" for office workers but no more than five.

He confirmed the Stourbridge depot would shut its doors on April 14.

"Fewer and fewer people are buying milk from their milkman so we have to keep re-scaling the business to match demand," added Mr Reeves.

There would not be any changes to deliveries.

## Fishing at pool closed

ANGLERS are being reminded that fishing at a Dudley nature reserve has ended for the annual close season.

Fens Pool nature reserve, which stretches between Pensnett and Brierley Hill, will remain closed to anglers until June 15.

Dudley Council said the three month closure is vital for helping to protect fish stocks. They say it encourages breeding.

# Cancer unit founder proud to top poll for civic award

THE founder of a leukaemia and cancer unit that cares for patients across the region has scooped the Mayor of Dudley's Civic Award after winning an online public vote. Ros Bratt-Wyton, aged 64, helped set up the Georgina Unit at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital in 1998.

And she has since helped raise millions of pounds through the appeal fund, and still continues to spearhead fundraising today.

Mrs Bratt-Wyton, who was a specialist nurse at Russells Hall said it became her "goal" to introduce cancer facilities at the site.

Four other Civic Awards were also presented by the Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Michael Evans, for sport, the arts, community spirit and education.

Mrs Bratt-Wyton, of Hurst Hill, said: "I'm very proud and it is an endorsement of all the great work that the unit does."

### Teenager

"As well as treating patients we have had two weddings on the ward, sent a dying father and his family to Florida and paid for a teenager with cancer to see Manchester United play in Europe."

"We have always tried to do what other hospitals don't."

The other winners were badminton coach Maureen South, 69, of Stourton, who clinched the Duncan Edwards award for sport, and Margaret Noakes, 68, a retired music teacher from Sedgley, won the Cedric Hardwicke award for arts.

The Frank Foley award for community spirit went to chairman of Dudley Canal Trust Vic Smallshire, while The Thomas Attwood award for education winner was woodwork teacher Geoffrey Attwood, of Wollescote.

More than 8,000 votes were cast by members of the public via the council's website - more than 10 times the number posted last year.

Councillor Evans said: "It was wonderful to meet so many people who work tirelessly in their communities and speak to them."



Four of the Mayor of Dudley's Civic Award winners, from left: Margaret Noakes, Vic Smallshire, Geoffrey Attwood and Maureen South



Ros Bratt-Wyton with Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Michael Evans

## People who were honoured

**Duncan Edwards award for sport:** Maureen South, 69, of Stourton, was recognised for her volunteering work teaching badminton at The Kingswinford School. She was secretary of the Cradley Heath Seniors League for 30 years and has led the youngsters at Kingswinford to glory.

"It's very rewarding and all the youngsters are like my family," the mother-of-one said.

**Cedric Hardwicke award for arts:** Margaret Noakes, 68, a retired music teacher from Sedgley, won the award for her work conducting the St Andrew's Church choir in the village for more than 30 years. She taught at Cradley Heath Secondary School and the Dormston School before retiring in 2000. She said:

"I had no idea I had been nominated until I was invited to the ceremony. I feel very honoured."

**The Frank Foley award for community spirit:** Vic Smallshire, 66, chairman of Dudley Canal Trust, started the Dudley Tunnel Preservation Society to reopen and restore the Dudley Tunnel, caverns and waterways in Dudley.

Mr Smallshire, of Cradley Heath, said: "We were quite brave when we started out because British Waterways didn't want us to unblock the tunnel."

"I could have got an ASBO but instead all these years later I've ended up with an award, and now the canal trust is up there with Dudley Zoo and the Black Country Living Museum."

**The Thomas Attwood award for education:** Geoffrey Attwood, 73, of Wollescote, is a teacher who continues to pass on his woodwork skills in adult education classes at Thorns Community College in Brierley Hill.

Mr Attwood began teaching at Coppice Lane Boys' School in 1961.

He said: "I've been lucky to work with and teach some great people over the years. I'm delighted to get this award."

**Mayor's award:** Ros Bratt-Wyton, from Russells Hall Hospital leukaemia unit appeal fund, who worked for 38 years in hospitals in Dudley.

She helped set up the Georgina Unit at Russells Hall Hospital, which cares for patients with leukaemia and cancer, in 1998. She has helped raise millions.

## NEWS in brief

### Plants plea to help beat thieves

POLICE are urging residents to grow plants around their gardens, sheds and garages in a bid to cut crime.

Officers say people should consider security to prevent thefts as they try to crack down on house burglaries.

Pc Angela Hudgetts, crime reduction officer in the Dudley borough, said: "This time of year has traditionally seen an increase in burglary and thefts from gardens and sheds. Homeowners can take some simple and cost-effective measures that can reduce chance of them becoming a victim."

### Cash on offer for volunteer groups

VOLUNTARY and community groups in Dudley borough are being invited to bid for grants of up to £1,000 to help with the costs of running activities.

More than £28,000 is available through Dudley Community Partnership for groups that help increase employment opportunities and access to learning or improve health and wellbeing of people. For an application form call 01384 573381 or go to [www.dudleycvcs.org.uk](http://www.dudleycvcs.org.uk)

### Sport in the park

CHILDREN with disabilities are invited to join a free sports club held at Halesowen's Huntingtree Park on Sundays from midday to 2pm. Call 07557 323173.

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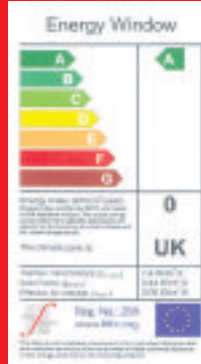
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thechronicle

# Weight and see – 50st goes as mothers slim



Claire Lamsdale, front left, with her son William, aged two, health trainer Tim Ryall and Rebecca Flower and her grandson Mackenzie Flower-Rudge, three, and other mothers from the group who have lost weight

## A GROUP of Black Country mums have lost more than 50 stones after joining forces to lose weight.

Around 30 women who attend the Mummy Mornings at Westfield Merry Hill Centre, Dudley, have each shed an average of more than a stone since starting the NHS weight loss programme nine weeks ago.

But it has given one slimmed-down mum a sizeable problem – a new wardrobe of clothes given to her by style guru Gok Wan in a makeover three years ago no longer fit.

"I was in size 14s then but now I am in size 10," said Mandy Moore, aged 39, of Oakfield Road, Wollescote, Stourbridge.

"Since joining the Mummy Mornings weight loss programme I have gone down from 12st 6lb to 10st 8lb and I feel 100 per cent better.

"But most of the clothes I was given in

Gok Wan's fashion fix three years ago are now too big, so I am having to get them tailored down."

Mrs Moore, mother of Erin, five, and 11-year-old Logan, said: "Even so, I'm glad I've lost the weight."

NHS Dudley's Heath Exchange trainers have, since January, been attending the Mummy Mornings, held every Tuesday in the Eat Central area of Merry Hill.

## Trying

On Tuesday of last week they saw just how well they were doing by trying on "fat suits", loaded up with weights to show how they looked before they slimmed down.

Next month there will be a prize for the "biggest loser" – the mum who has lost the most. Health trainer Tim Ryall said: "We are helping them to realise that by making small changes they can lose weight."



Elizabeth Hill, who is the 2,000th member of the club, with son Owen

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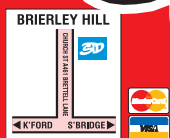
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## LETTERS

thechronicle

## Paxman can keep his sneering

IT'S A Shame that Paxman has missed a golden opportunity to show he is more than just a brain with the ability to rave at university students for their ignorance and likewise at politicians.

His somewhat flippant take on the British Empire with all of its faults and all of its achievements in shaping the modern world is extremely poor and his final comments after viewing an excerpt from Gripping Yarns and describing the whole concept as 'absurd' summed up his shallow presentation.

I dare say next week, he will be in his

element when discussing slavery and the Chinese opium trade. Surely a man of his intelligence should have the nous never to use 21st century norms as a yardstick when making judgements.

You cannot take events out of their historical timeframe. His comments on India the previous week showed a total lack of depth. Does he not understand that this was an age of empire building?

Britain just happened to gain the ascendancy. In the case of India, if it had not been the British, it would have been the Portuguese or French and

later, in the so-called "Great Game", the Russians. Similarly, North American colonies would have been French.

One does not need to be a "my country right or wrong" Brit to see that many good things in the world are directly attributable to the empire and also eg. as in the Middle East conflicts that there is a flip side.

Sorry Paxo, please use your intellect rather than your sneers.

ALAN M ETHERIDGE  
Catholic Lane  
Sedgley

## Support your local town and its stores

EVERY little helps or so a certain supermarket chain say. But this is not true certainly as far as they are concerned, because what they give you in one hand, they take back with the other.

When will people realise by shopping around you can get branded goods at a fraction of the price.

Although much is said about Dudley Town being rundown, my husband and I do most of our shopping there at much lower prices than supermarket prices. As far as Dudley is concerned every little does help.

So come on support your local towns and forget the greedy supermarket who are not satisfied with selling food, but sell everything thus taking trade from lots of shops. No wonder towns are rundown.

MRS JOHNSON  
Dudley

## LETTERS to the Editor

## POST

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## E-MAIL

dudleychrons@  
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## OAPs have had to work for pensions

THANK you Mrs P A Jordan for putting the case for OAPs so knowledgeably. It only remains for me to inform Lindsey Phillips that "in those days" we left school at 15 and at that time it was only the truly "gifted" school leavers who progressed to colleges and universities. The majority of us left and immediately entered full-time employment, often from the next day. There were no "years off" then. It was work or no money, our parents weren't able to subsidise us.

I am fully aware of the shortages of jobs at present and sincerely hope things change for the better soon. But, please do not keep "slagging off" the senior citizens. Without us being able to spend the fruits of our latter years, hard-earned savings the hotels would have fewer guests; coach companies would not be in business; theatres would close and travel agents would be hard pressed to sell their holidays. Also, because of the bus pass we are able to get to the out of town shops. Lindsey, I hope I at some time in the future I shall read about you becoming an MP as least you had the interest to make a point (although, misguided).

MRS M SOUTHALL, Charles Road, Halesowen

## Rail link needed more than city status

SO DUDLEY has lost out on its bid for city status. Well perhaps on reflection it is not bad thing.

Yes there is a lot going on at the moment in Dudley regarding redevelopment.

We have a zoo and the Black Country Living Museum being joined by a new roadway. Years ago we also had a railway station.

Now my question is to our councillors, why not consult with the government and network rail about rebuilding a railway station where the original was? People I am sure would willingly use it to Birmingham than travel on the 74 bus.

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## thechronicle

Singer star  
tops festival

A SINGER who has performed lead roles in West End and Broadway musicals has been announced as the headline act for a new festival in Stourbridge.

Kerry Ellis will top the bill at SMARTFest in Mary Stevens Park on August 11. She made her West End stage debut in the 2001 revival of My Fair Lady and has since performed lead roles in We Will Rock You, Les Misérables, Wicked, Chess and Oliver in London and on Broadway. In 2010 she collaborated with Queen guitarist Brian May on her debut album Anthems.

## Last pint for pub mooted

**A BOARDED-UP pub in Stourbridge could have pulled its last pint after developers revealed plans to transform the building into six new flats.**

The Red Lion, in the Old Quarter area, has lain empty for years and has become an eyesore. Solid metal grids were put up on its windows in a bid to stop vandal attacks.

But graffiti has been sprayed around the building which stands on the junction of Lion Street and Green Street. Stourbridge-based PCF Developments is behind the plans to redevelop the pub. Scaffolding has already been erected at the site. The firm is seeking to convert the building into six one-bedroom flats

and demolish an existing boundary wall to create a car park.

Four parking bays would be created off Lion Street along with two off-street spaces at the junction.

Margaret Scott, chairman of community watchdog group Stourbridge Township Council, said the pub had become an eyesore and people living nearby would be pleased something was being done.

## Vandals

"Often with all these pubs closing, they just finish up being a place targeted by vandals and arsonists," she said.

"I think that if there is an opportunity to convert them into something useful then that would be better as

there would be a use for the building."

Applicant Peter Robbins, in a report to Dudley Council's planning department, said: "The property is not typical of period public houses built in the Stourbridge area and therefore has local and architectural merit.

"The current property is situated within the centre of a residential area, just off Stourbridge ring road.

"However, current trends has seen over the years a dramatic downturn in trade.

"Therefore in order to retain the premises, the proposal is to convert and extend to form six low-cost apartments within this residential area."

A decision on the scheme is likely to be taken in the next few weeks.

Minister invited for talks  
over town centre future

A GOVERNMENT minister has been invited to meet traders to discuss how to revive Dudley town centre as it bids to be chosen for a project aiming to save Britain's struggling high streets.

The town is vying to become one of 12 towns to trial recommendations from retail guru Mary Portas and earn a slice of £1 million to boost trade.

Dudley North MP Ian Austin has invited Housing Minister Grant Shapps to meet traders and shoppers to discuss ways to revive the town centre, which has been labelled as the worst in the country for empty shops.

Mr Austin, who is backing Dudley's bid, said: "This is a positive development and

gives us a good chance to sell the town. Being selected as a Portas Pilot would give Dudley a real boost.

"It would show the importance of new ideas and new thinking to boost investment and help get the high street back on its feet.

## Concerts

"I want to see concerts and plays in the castle and I want to see a university campus in Dudley to attract more visitors, extra investment and new jobs to the area."

Some 29 per cent of shops in Dudley are empty, giving it the highest vacancy rate of any medium sized town in the country.

Councils have until March 30 to apply for selection.

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England with Billy Wright, captain, front, goalkeeper Bert Williams, centre rear, and Johnny Hancocks almost hidden



Ron Flowers, 49 caps for England and 515 appearances for Wolverhampton Wanderers



Bill Slater OBE, CBE BSc, captain of Wolves and an England international



Three England internationals with the FA Cup at Wembley in 1960 after Wolves beat Blackburn - Eddie Clamp, Bill Slater and Norman Deeley

# Molineux men formed backbone of England



Billy Wright leads out England against Scotland for his 100th cap. Behind him are two more Wolves players, Peter Broadbent and Ron Flowers

**W**olves winger Matt Jarvis has been making news by being picked for England's international squad, though he is yet to make his debut.

But there was a time when the national side was full of Wolves players. During the 1950s the England side always had a player from Molineux, and usually had several, on some occasions making up the entire half back line.

A fixture in the team throughout that time was William Ambrose Wright CBE, the first man in the world to play for his country 100 times. In fact Billy Wright won 105 times, and captained England a record 90 times.

He was the David Beckham of his day, famous throughout the world, married to a singer in a top girl group (Joy Beverley of the Beverley Sisters), and winning trophies with his club.

When Wright retired, it was his replacement in the Wolves team who succeeded him in the England team. Bill Slater had been capped 21 times in the England amateur team, and was a fixture as a half back alongside Billy



By Alec Brew

Wright throughout the 1950s, eventually being capped 12 times in the full England side and named Footballer of the Year in 1960.

On four occasions when Slater and Wright played together in the England team, the other half back was Wolves team-mate Eddie "Chopper" Clamp, and from 1955 another regular choice in the national half back line was Ron Flowers, whose international career was spread over 11 seasons and a total of 49 caps - the second highest of any Wolves player.

## Machine

In the early 50s the England goalkeeper was the incomparable Bert Williams, who won 24 caps, and played in the 1950 and 1954 World Cup finals.

Considering the attacking style of Wolves teams, and the huge number of goals they scored, often netting more than a 100 a season, their forwards,

Bert "The Cat" Williams, 450 games for Wolves and 24 England caps

surprisingly, did not win as many caps as their defenders.

Peter Broadbent, regarded by many fans as the best player ever to wear the gold and black, only played seven times for his country, blocked by the selectors' preference for Fulham's Johnny Haynes.

Superb wingers Jimmy Mullen (12 caps), Johnny Hancocks (three) and Norman Deeley (two) had Stanley Matthews and Tom Finney in their way, but goal-scoring machine Dennis Wilshaw might have expected more than his 12 caps. In one game Wilshaw

Peter Broadbent, 497 games for Wolves and seven England caps

became the first England player to score four goals.

If Andy Carroll is worth £35 million to Liverpool, how much would a player who scored 10 goals in 12 internationals be worth today?

Since Flowers retired, only Steve Bull has been capped, so let's hope that Jarvis or a team-mate breaks the duck.

● Alec Brew is appealing for photos for Memory Lane and for a book he is writing on Wolverhampton industry. Email alecbrew@hotmail.co.uk or call 01902 759696.



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thechronicle

# Apprentice roars in to pick up the Lion Award



Nicholas Rose, from Dudley, collects an educational Lion Award from host Alex Jones of The One Show, and CEO and director general of City & Guilds, Chris Jones

A STUDENT from Dudley showed some lion-heart spirit to pick up two awards at a national education ceremony in London.

Nicholas Rose took home the main accolade of the night – outstanding achiever of the year – at the Lion Awards, run by vocational education firm City & Guilds.

He was also named Further Education learner of the year at the ceremony. While studying, engineering apprentice Nicolas achieved four distinctions in the six elements required for his technical certificate.

Having joined his employer at the age of 16, he followed an apprenticeship scheme with MetSkill and the City of Wolverhampton College. The 20-year-old said he was overwhelmed to win a medal of excellence, let alone a Lion Award.

"I didn't know that I had been nominated for anything until I saw myself on the screen," he said. "I turned to my mum in amazement and said 'that's me'."

"Later on in the evening I was sat there enjoying the evening thinking I had my award, when it came to the last award of the night, the outstanding achiever of the year."

"They described the winner and in the back of my head I thought it sounded like me, but I didn't think I could be the winner. 'I remember seeing the look on my family's faces, seeing how proud they were.'"

The awards are designed to celebrate the country's most inspiring achievers who have accomplished impressive results through practical learning.

The ceremony was hosted by BBC's The One Show presenter Alex Jones.

## Robbery at newsagents

A HOSPITAL worker was attacked during a robbery at a newsagents in Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital. The 39-year-old was opening the shop when he was hit on the head. Police said cash was stolen at around 6am on March 23. The attacker fled the scene with another man in a blue Vauxhall Vectra. Detectives are looking for a 6ft 2ins, black man of slim build.

## Recognising the efforts made by savers of energy

ENERGY conscious businesses, residents, community groups and schools in Dudley are being sought for an award that has a cash prize.

Dudley Climate Change Group's Energy Heroes Awards recognises achievements made by organisations and individuals in energy saving or generating renewable energy. Judges will be looking for projects that have helped to reduce energy use in the last year.

Applications could include activities such as installing energy saving

measures in homes or businesses, installing renewable energy generation technologies such as solar panels, walking buses for schoolchildren or awareness raising projects.

There are two categories, a community one for households, schools, voluntary and community groups and a category private sector businesses and not-for-profit organisations. The deadline for entries is April 30. Call 01384 814756 or visit [www.dudleylsp.org/ener\\_gyheroes](http://www.dudleylsp.org/ener_gyheroes)

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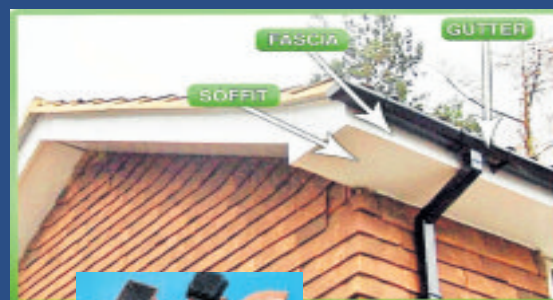
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# thechronicle

## Hospital changes cut agency nursing costs

HOSPITAL bosses in Dudley have slashed their wage bill for agency nurses by more than 90 per cent, new figures reveal. The Dudley Group of Hospitals paid out around £4.9 million in 2009/10 and £360,000 during the current financial year so far.

The hospital trust, which runs Russells Hall and the Guest hospitals in Dudley and the Corbett, Stourbridge, had pledged to reduce costs as it continues to shave millions of pounds off its budget. Chief executive Paula Clark said a "staff bank" of 400 nurses and clinical workers, already employed by the trust and who are paid overtime to cover shortages, had been set up.

"During the financial year, 2012/13, The Dudley Group is planning to make a saving of approximately £9.7m of our total income budget," she said. "We introduced our own staff bank in 2010 which has reduced our reliance on external nursing bank and agency staff."

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thechronicle

# Jessica wins through to semi-finals of Miss Teen



Jessica Hopkins, from Dudley, is in the semi-finals of Miss Teen Great Britain 2012

A SCHOOLGIRL from Dudley has won a place in the semi-finals of a nationwide beauty pageant. Jessica Hopkins, aged 15, from Milking Bank, is competing to become Miss Teen Great Britain 2012.

The pageant, aimed at 13-18 year old girls, is seeking 60 finalists to fight for the crown as well as a £1,000 prize.

Jessica, a pupil at St Dominic's High School for Girls, Brewod, said: "Making it to the grand final would be a dream come true - fingers crossed I will be able to represent my hometown and win the Miss Teen Great Britain crown."

After being scouted at the Clothes Show in Birmingham, Jessica will now have to fill in an extensive application stating what she would do if she won the title.

**xhd**

The questions are designed to give judges an overall impression of each semi-finalist's personality.

Jessica has chosen singer Cher Lloyd as the celebrity she would compare herself to after regularly being told she resembles the X-Factor star.

The judging panel will then decide if Jessica's answers and photographs show that she has what it takes to be a finalist.

The teenager currently has plans to pursue a career in dance and drama after completing her GCSEs, with



Cher Lloyd, who Jessica compares herself to

modelling being a step in the right direction.

The grand final will take place at The Globe in Blackpool in September where finalists get to spend the weekend taking part in photo-shoots and enjoying the rides at Blackpool Pleasure Beach.

## App for busy students

STUDENTS at Dudley College can now access their course assignments and check their grades on their phones through a new Blackboard App. It will allow them to download information for free to help keep on top of their work while on the go. It also let them view documents and interact through on-line discussion boards. Learning resources manager Richard Gibbons said: "It's really important that we embrace technology to support our students."

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thechronicle

## Beacon shines for fifth time



Camra chairman Stan Stephens and Alex Marchant at The Beacon Hotel

AN AWARD-WINNING pub in the Black Country has received another honour.

The Beacon Hotel, Bilston Street, Sedgley, has been named 2012 pub of the year by the Dudley and South Staffs branch of Camra it is the fifth time in a row the pub has won. The final shortlist had included The Black Bear, Lower Gornal, The New Inn, Wombourne, The New Inn, Wordsley,

and The Old Hop Pole, West Bromwich. Manager Alex Marchant, aged 26, said: "It is a great privilege to be recognised five years in a row. It's a sign real ale continues to thrive despite the economic climate. We are a traditional pub. We don't serve food, there's no music or sport, we just serve real ale. We pride ourselves on good quality ale and customer service."

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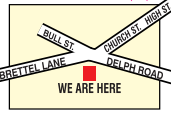
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## thechronicle

# Appeal to help turn old club building into cafe

A DERELICT former labour club in Brierley Hill could be given a new lease of life as a community cafe.

Members of the group, Insight for Carers, want to open up the boarded-up building in Pearson Street which has stood empty for two years.

But they are rallying tradesmen and volunteers to help them make the project a reality.

The group was set up three years ago by carer Marc Carter.

Offering support to carers, the group has been based at the Brierley Hill Project, in South Street, where members have run a cafe.

But due to the success and popularity of the service, members wanted to secure bigger premises and have taken up a lease on the labour club. "We have been so grateful to the support of the Brierley Hill Project but we have been lucky enough to find our own place," Mr Carter said.

### Creating

"Carers often feel so isolated and alone and they don't ask for much so we just try to offer support."

Plans include creating a new cafe and a sensory room.

But the group need help with the substantial building works including fitting a heating and hot water system.

The group is seeking decorators, plasterers and electricians who came give time to help out and building materials.

Windows also need replacing and new doors fitted to the empty building.

Project co-ordinator Loraine Stockton added: "We are hoping that it will be a thriving centre for the community."

"The main structure of the building is fine but a lot of work is still



Princes Trust volunteers Jonathan Fowkes, left, and Tim Flower in what was the lounge area of the former labour club

needed. "It will be for carers predominantly but we're also inviting the public to come down."

Insight for Carers is applying for charity status to help it with its future fundraising efforts.

But Mr Carter said any donation or assistance to help the new venture would be gratefully received.

Anyone able to help is asked to call Loraine Stockton on 07817 320517 or email [loraine@insightforcarers.org](mailto:loraine@insightforcarers.org)



The derelict and boarded up club

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## Plain sailing for club



Youth leader Mya Kiliwood with youngsters in the club's new RS Feva XL boat

A SAILING club has unveiled a new boat and dinghy bought with a £7,500 sports grant. The money, awarded to Himley Hall Sailing Club by Sports England, enabled the group to buy two new boats including the RS Seva, and also train new instructors and upgrade vital kit.

The funding will allow hundreds of people the chance to try sailing for the first time under its 'Sailing for All' project. The group, which sails on the lake at Himley Hall, has also set up a dedicated youth section.

Club Commodore Tony Sutton said: "This whole project is about looking after those newcomers that want to learn to sail with us, regardless of gender, age and background, and providing them with a pathway to improve their skills over time, while also making sure we give our current members plenty of reasons to stay sailing with us."

"We want to try to encourage sailing as a sport, a hobby, and a form of healthy well being and fitness for all."

Taster days, open to everyone, will be held on April 14, June 23 and August 11. Call Ian Sim 01902 755149 to get involved in the April event, or Tony Sutton on 07774818449 for the other dates.

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Talk topic  
was canal  
navigation

## KINGSWINFORD & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE speaker at the March meeting was Dr Peter King and his subject was "Andrew Yarrington and the Stour Navigation"

After a delayed start due to audio visual problems Dr King told of Andrew Yarrington's early life. He was born in Astley Parish in Worcestershire around 1616. After being a shop assistant he became involved in mills and forges in the iron industry and after spending time in the Army surveyed the River Stour with a view to making it navigable from Stourbridge to Kidderminster.

An Act of Parliament had been passed in 1662 to make the river navigable to enable coal and iron to be carried to the River Severn. In 1664 Yarrington embarked on a scheme to make this possible from Stourbridge to Kidderminster.

Canal navigation eventually overtook the viability of the river.

The next meeting is on Monday April 2 when Dr Paul Collins makes a return visit to talk on "Dudley Living Memories".

All are welcome at 7.30pm at the Community Centre, High Street, Kingswinford. Further details from Brenda Arthur on 01384 291593 or Ron Julian, 01384 295848.

## CLUB NEWS

# Colleagues take it to the bridge



Kidderminster and Stourbridge Soroptimists take part in the "Join Me on the Bridge" campaign

SOROPTIMISTS around the world celebrated International Women's Day on March 8.

This day celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future. Kidderminster Soroptimists marked the occasion by standing with Stourbridge club members on the stone bridge in the grounds of Himley Hall for the "Join Me on the Bridge" campaign.

The global campaign has a theme of peace and development.

On Saturday 10 March, six club members attended the spring Midland Arden regional meeting hosted by SI Coventry at Wolston.

## KIDDERMINSTER SOROPTIMISTS

Regional president Ruth Longville welcomed members from the 13 clubs in the region which stretches from Birmingham West to Hereford.

Wendy Friar was a very inspiring speaker. She instigated the Black Country Food Bank, based in Halesowen, a volunteer-run centre with a Christian ethos which opened in 2006. For more details about the club, email [kidderminstersorop@gmail.com](mailto:kidderminstersorop@gmail.com) or visit <http://sigbi.org>

# Christine marks milestone

THE annual general meeting was introduced by chairman Dorothy Bailey on March 8.

Federation chairman Jean Parsons attended and presented Christine Clifford with her 40-year membership certificate and a letter from the national chairman.

A representative from Compton Hospice was given

## WOMBOURNE E TWG

a cheque for £300. All members of the guild and the committee were thanked for their continued support. Tea, coffee and cakes rounded off a very pleasant evening.

A visit to the Grand

Theatre to see Half a Sixpence was very enjoyable. The guild is planning to go to Masson Mills Shopping Village and Arkwright's Mill in Derbyshire on May 17. Seats on the coach are still available. The next meeting will be on April 12 at the community centre at 7.30pm. Mike Wilkes' talk will be on 'Spring in Spain'.

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# Halesowen *imag* SPRING 2012



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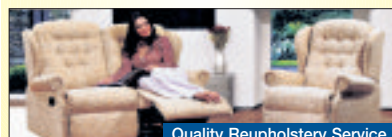
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## Community information guide - imag

# From ancient church to an old garden and into future

**HISTORY and heritage grew from humble surroundings to create the modern town of Halesowen we know today.**

Its medieval beginnings are still the bedrock for the metropolitan town in the 21st century.

The £30 million masterplan to create a new bus station and Asda superstore at the Cornbow Centre help modernise the town as a retail outlet to rival those in Dudley and Sandwell.

It is hoped the development, which was completed in 2008, will help kickstart an ambitious revamp for Halesowen bringing a department store and multiplex cinema to the town.

But townfolk have not forgotten their roots which stretch back to the days of William the Conqueror.

The earliest settlers had created the village of Halas, which took its quaint name from the Anglo-Saxon word for remote valley.

It was once deemed larger in size than Birmingham in the Domesday Book researched by Royal officers. But it was eventually gifted by King Henry II to the Welsh Prince David Owen - hence the name Halas Owen.

One of the modern Halesowen's most imposing landmarks harks back to these days.

The parish church of St John the Baptist dates back to 1083 - built on the site of an old Anglo-Saxon church. Evidence shows that parts of the church spire could date back even further to Norman times.

The town's High Street encircles the churchyard before stretching towards the Cornbow Hall with bustling shops along each side.

Landmark firms in Halesowen's industrial landscape were also honoured when the civic

square was named Somers Square in 2003. Industrialist Walter Somers established the forgemaster company known as Walter Somers Limited.

He created an ironworks plant at Mucklow Hill in 1866 producing a range of steel products including items for military.

Somers Square has hosted several major celebrations and events over the past few years. The seaside comes to town with the annual Halesowen by the Sea event attracting crowds to take part in a range of fun beach activities.

It is also the centrepiece of the Christmas lights switch on and St George's Day events.

The town centre has also been linked with another of Halesowen's cultural landmarks.

A trail leads people along Shenstone Way to The Leasowes which is a Grade I listed 58 hectares parkland covering 58 hectares.

The garden at The Leasowes was designed by the poet and gardener William Shenstone beginning in 1743 and continuing until his death in 1763.

## Features

Shenstone created his garden from farmland forming a diverse landscape of wooded valleys, open grassland, lakes and streams. A £1.8 million renovation project started in 1998 to begin restoring The Leasowes to its former glory.

Regular walks are held by wardens at the park, which features ornate cascades and the valley known as Virgil's Grove.

Interest in The Leasowes from visitors increased during Shenstone's lifetime and continued after his death. Records show during the middle of the 18th century it became one of the most visited gardens in the country.

Theatians now take the stage at the Shenstone Theatre within Halesowen Library after it



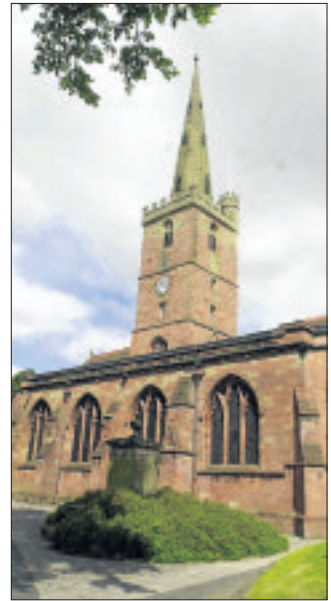
Record show The Leasowes was one of the most visited gardens in the 18th century

was named to honour the great poet and landscape gardener's legacy.

Nearby are the ruins of Halesowen Abbey, founded in 1215 by Peter des Roches, Bishop of Winchester.

When King Henry VIII set out on the dissolution of monasteries across the country, the abbey pass into private hands in 1538.

Parts of the original structure still remain after the fabric of the building was taken during the industrial revolution. It is now under the control of English Heritage.



Parts the parish church of St John the Baptist could date back to Norman times



The town centre development of the new bus station with the Asda supermarket behind

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	18.30-19.30	Pump
	19.30-20.30	Pilates
Thursday	18.00-18.30	Gym Machine Workout
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	19.30-20.30	Zumba
Friday	18.00-19.00	Miss Fitted Dance Adult
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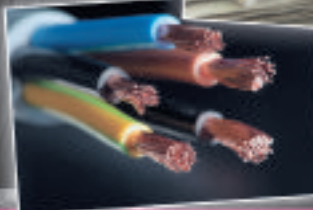
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## Community information guide - imag

# Thrill seekers head for theme parks and zoos

FAMILIES looking to take a walk on the wild side, whether that's white-knuckle roller-coaster rides or getting close to big cats, have plenty of choice in the West Midlands.

West Midlands Safari and Leisure Park, between Kidderminster and Bewdley, has got both. The day out includes four-mile self-drive safari and 27-ride leisure park including Venom Tower Drop. A new attraction for 2012 is Penguin Cove, where visitors can watch the colony of Humboldt penguins explore their own beach or take a shower in their waterfall.

Dudley Zoological Gardens on Castle Hill, in the heart of the Black Country, has been transformed in recent years and in 2012 celebrates its 75th anniversary. Two new animal stars set to be a roaring success are Amur tiger Tschuna and Sumatran tiger Daseep. There's lots to discover in the 40-acre grounds of the historic (and supposedly haunted) ruined castle.

When it comes to castles, few are more impressive than Warwick Castle where The Castle Dungeon now hosts the vengeful Witches of Warwick. Merlin fans can experience The Dragon Tower and there are regular bird of prey displays and the trebuchet siege machine is put into action.

More than 50 rides and attractions ensure a busy day out at Alton Towers Resort in north Staffordshire. New for 2012 is Nemesis Sub-Terrar, a spin-off from the Nemesis attraction that takes the terror underground, and Ice Age The 4D Experience featuring characters from the hit animated movies.

### Adrenaline

Drayton Manor Theme Park, near Tamworth, is staging a number of Guinness World Record attempts to mark its 62nd year. This year also features a new 4D movie based on classic fantasy The Little Prince and live shows. For younger children there is Thomas Land, featuring the popular living loco and his friends, whilst thrill-seekers can head for the big coasters, including Ben 10 Ultimate Mission, adrenaline-pumping drop tower Apocalypse, stand-up coaster Shockwave, splashastic Stormforce 10 and the stomach-churning Maelstrom.

Hands-on, hi-tech displays can be visited at eye-catching West Bromwich town centre venue The Public, which is free admission, as is the equally iconic New Art Gallery in Walsall town centre. Both offer family craft events at weekends and during school holidays.

For those with a sweet tooth, Cadbury World at Bourneville is the ultimate destination, visited by more than half a million chocoholics last year. Learn all about chocolate, particularly Birmingham's famous brand, and taste it too



The Ben 10 Ultimate Mission rollercoaster at Drayton Manor Theme Park, near Tamworth in Staffordshire

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## Community information guide - imag

# Living history in time travelling adventures

**THE WEST Midlands has a rich history which has left an legacy of impressive buildings and sites to explore.**

In Shropshire much of the heritage is drawn from the centuries of uneasy relations with their neighbours the Welsh. This legacy includes the remains of the **Roman city of Wroxeter** (some claim it became Arthur's Camelot after the Romans left) where a Roman villa has been recreated as part of a TV documentary. Nearby is the imposing **Attingham Hall**, where the picture gallery became the model for Buck-

ingham Palace's gallery, and the romantic ruins of impressive **Ludlow Castle** and **Wenlock Priory**. The latter is in the village of Much Wenlock, where the modern Olympics originated and are being celebrated as part of London 2012.

Nearby Bridgnorth is the northern terminus of the **Severn Valley Railway** which steams along the beautiful valley via Bewdley to Kidderminster and includes the Engine House education centre at Highley.

In this area, **Buildwas Abbey** ruins and **Dudmaston Hall** grounds make great picnic spots. Near Craven Arms are picturesque medieval manor house **Stokesay Castle**, the **Secret Hills Discovery Centre** with its replica Shropshire mammoth and **Acton Scott** historic working farm, where Victorian Farm was filmed.

**Ironbridge** is named after one of the marvels of the early industrial age, which spans the Severn, and the gorge is the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution that transformed the world. There are ten museums in the gorge, available via individual ticket or by a 12-month passport for all of them. The biggest is **Blists Hill Victorian Town**, which takes visitors back to the 19th Century.

## Manor

Industry later moved to the Black Country and Birmingham where the **Black Country Living Museum** in Dudley gives visitors a taste of that sooty, chain-hammering, hard-working past. The **Back To Backs** in Birmingham city centre show how the workers lived, whilst the palatial ruins of **Witley Court**, near Stourport, hint at the opulence enjoyed by industrialists such as the Earl of Dudley.

The Manders made **Wightwick Manor**, Wolverhampton, into a celebration of the 19th Century arts and crafts movement. **Soho House** in Handsworth was the elegant home of Birmingham industrialist Matthew Boulton and nearby the **Museum of the Jewellery Quarter** in Hockley is a time capsule for one of the city's great trades.

Another city landmark, **Aston Hall**, played a role in one of the country's defining conflicts, the English Civil War, as did **Boscobel House** and **Moseley Old Hall**, both near Wolverhampton. The religious persecutions leading up to that 17th Century conflict are reflected in the 'priest hole' hideaways at **Harvington Hall**, near Kidderminster, and at moated **Baddesley Clinton**, near Solihull, both Elizabethan treasures.

Conflicts of a recent era are remembered at the **Royal Air Force Museum** at Cosford, an aviation fan's must-see attraction housed in three huge hangars at the air base. It has a fascinating Cold War exhibition too and is free admission, though you will need to pay for parking.



More than 70 historic aircraft to see at the Royal Air Force Museum at Cosford, plus a flight simulator

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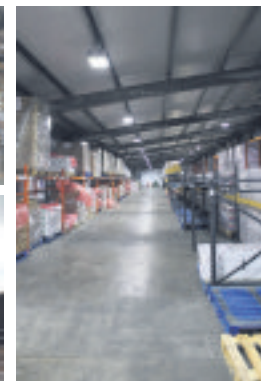
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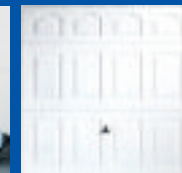
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## Choice

## BBC1

## BBC2

## ITV1

## Channel 4

## Channel 5

## Digital



## CASUALTY

BBC1, 9.10pm

Jordan's date with Yvonne is put on hold when a former ED patient collapses in prison after being arrested for assaulting Lloyd. The incident threatens the pair's blossoming relationship as it becomes apparent one of them may be held accountable for the unwell man being left in a cell. Meanwhile, a 14-year-old girl gives birth at home, and her sister plants the unwanted baby in Jeff and Dixie's ambulance. Linda and Zoe later encounter the teenager while on a night out, and are quickly sobered by the realisation that she is haemorrhaging and in need of urgent medical attention. The cast includes Michael French, Sunetra Sarker and Christine Tremarco.

**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **12.15** Football Focus. **1.00** British Olympic Dreams. **1.30** World Olympic Dreams. **2.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **3.00** Cash in the Attic. (R) **3.45** You Are the Weakest Link - Goodbye. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **5.30** A Question of Sport. Guests include Shane Williams and John Hartson. (R)

**6.00** Winter Wipeout Celebrity Special. With Terry Christian, Sophie Anderton and Peter Shilton. Last in the series.

**7.00** The Voice UK. Holly Willoughby and Reggie Yates present the singing contest, in which coaches Tom Jones, Jessie J, Will.i.am and Danny O'Donoghue seek out the nation's best vocal talent.

**8.20** The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Quiz show, hosted by Dale Winton. Includes the Lotto and Thunderball draws.

**9.10** Casualty. Jordan's date with Yvonne is put on hold.

**10.00** BBC News; Weather. **10.20** Match of the Day. Including highlights of Wolverhampton Wanderers v Bolton Wanderers; National Lottery Update.

**11.45** The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games in the Championship, League One and League Two.

**1.05** Weatherview. **1.10** BBC News.

**6.00** CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **12.00** Coast. (R) **12.20** Film: Becket. (1964) Historical drama, starring Richard Burton and Peter O'Toole. **2.45** Film: All for Love. (1999) Romantic drama, starring Jean-Marc Barr and Anna Friel. **4.10** Flog It! **5.10** Match of the Day Live. Blackpool v Southampton (Kick-off 5.25pm).

**7.30** Dad's Army. Captain Mainwaring discovers he is not a commissioned officer. (R)

**8.00** How God Made the English. Diarmaid MacCulloch concludes his investigation into the nature of Englishness, examining the roles of ethnicity and religion in determining nationality. Last in the series.

**9.00** Have I Got Old News for You. Guest host Chris Addison joins regulars Ian Hislop and Paul Merton, as well as panellists James Blunt and Nick Robinson, for the satirical current affairs quiz. (R)

**9.30** Arena: Jonathan Miller. Profile of humorist, opera director, physician and artist Jonathan Miller.

**11.00** The Zoo in Winter. Jonathan Miller fantasises about the lives of the inhabitants of ZSL London Zoo. (R)

**11.45** The Sarah Millican Television Programme. The comedienne talks property and fashion TV, with Sarah Beeny and Julien Macdonald. (R)

**12.15** Film: The Salton Sea. (2002) Crime thriller, starring Val Kilmer. **1.50** Close.

**6.00** CITY: Mini CITY. **7.25** CITY. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **11.25** This Morning: Saturday. **12.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **1.25** ITV News; Weather. **1.40** Film: A Cinderella Story. (2004) Romantic comedy, starring Hilary Duff and Chad Michael Murray. **3.35** Film: Forever Young. (1992) Romantic sci-fi drama, with Mel Gibson and Jamie Lee Curtis. **5.25** Regional News; Weather. **5.40** ITV News; Weather.

**6.00** New You've Been Framed! Featuring cute children.

**6.30** Best of Harry Hill's TV Burp. Classic clips including Harry dancing the tango.

**7.00** All Star Family Fortunes. Downton Abbey's Lesley Nicol and comedian Ed Byrne take part. Last in the series.

**8.00** Britain's Got Talent. Ant and Dec present the second audition show.

**9.05** Take Me Out. A company manager, an events consultant, a motorbike enthusiast and an athlete try to impress 30 single women, and last week's couples go on their dates. Paddy McGuinness presents.

**10.20** ITV News; Weather.

**10.35** FILM: Forgetting Sarah Marshall. (2008) Romantic comedy, starring Jason Segel and Rachel McAdams.

**12.30** The Zone. Interactive gaming: ITV News Headlines. **3.00** In Plain Sight. Mary is interviewed by a psychiatrist. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

**6.00** The Treacle People. (R) **6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **7.00** The Grid. **7.25** FIM World Superbikes. **7.50** Channel 4 Presents - 2012: Jody Cundy - Part Two. (R) **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.55** T4: Koko Pop. **9.25** T4: The Wanted: Backstage in Brazil. (R) **10.00** T4: Charlie's Angels. **10.55** T4: Come Dine with Me: Made in Chelsea Special. **11.55** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.25** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.55** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.25** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.55** Channel 4 Racing. **4.05** Channel 4 Presents - 2012: Ellie Simmonds - Part Two. How the Paralympic swimming gold medalist copes with pressure. **4.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.15** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.45** Come Dine with Me. (R)

**6.15** Channel 4 News. **6.45** 4thought.tv. A member of the public discusses turning away from mainstream religion.

**6.50** FILM: Avatar. (2009) A paraplegic marine is sent undercover in an alien tribe to spy for a corrupt mining executive. James Cameron's sci-fi adventure, with Sam Worthington and Zoe Saldana.

**10.00** The Million Pound Drop Live. Quiz show, presented by Davina McCall.

**11.35** FILM: Alfie. (2004) Comedy-drama remake, starring Jude Law.

**1.30** Film: Last Days. (2004) Drama, starring Michael Pitt. **3.10** Dish. Short erotic tale. (R) **3.20** Welcome to Glaringly. (R) **3.25** Franklin & Bash. **4.05** Privileged. (R) **4.45** 90210. (R) **5.25** Countdown. (R)

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** Animal Rescue Squad. (R) **10.15** Holiday Heaven on Earth. (R) **10.45** Mirror Mirror: Movie Special. **11.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.15** WWI Top Gun: Revealed. (R) **1.15** Film: Battle of Britain. (1969) Second World War drama, starring Laurence Olivier. **3.50** Film: Operation Daybreak. (1975) Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Timothy Bottoms and Martin Shaw.

**6.15** 5 News Weekend. **6.20** NCIS. Part two of two. Agent Callen goes undercover. (R)

**7.10** NCIS. An Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent is murdered. (R)

**8.00** NCIS. Part one of two. Ziva is forced to confront her past when the team is ordered to protect her father. Mossad director Eli David, at a gathering of former heads of NCIS. (R)

**9.00** CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. Catherine is forced to revisit an old murder case. Guest starring Henry Thomas (ET). (R)

**10.00** CSI: NY. The team investigates the apparent death of a cage fighter.

**10.55** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. The unit is brought into conflict with the Pentagon.

**11.50** Inside Hollywood. Magazine show.

**12.00** SuperCasino. **3.55** Great Scientists. (R) **4.50** Rough Guide to Eco Escapes. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

**ITV2** **3.00** American Idol **5.45** Film: E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial (1982) **8.00** Celebrity Grimefighters **9.05** Britain's Got More Talent **10.05** One Direction: The Hot Desk **10.20** Take Me Out - The Gossip **11.05** Celebrity Juice **11.50** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records

**ITV3** **2.40** Film: Calamity Jane (1953) **4.00** Rosemary & Thyme **5.45** A Touch of Frost **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Foyle's War. Foyle's son disappears. Last in the series. **11.00** Those Who Kill

**ITV4** **3.20** Film: Spartacus (1960) **7.00** The Sweeney **8.00** Rookie Builders **9.00** An Audience with Billy Connolly. The Big Yin entertains a celebrity crowd. **10.10** Film: Full Metal Jacket (1987)

**BBC THREE** **7.00** Doctor Who **7.45** Doctor Who Confidential **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** Film: Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy. (2004) Newsroom comedy, starring Will Ferrell. **10.35** World Series of Dating **11.05** Family Guy **11.50** American Dad!

**BBC FOUR** **7.00** Lost Cities of the Ancients **8.00** Monty Don's Italian Gardens **9.00** Inspector Montalbano. The detective believes a car crash was no accident. **10.35** Top of the Pops: 1977 **11.05** Lost Cities of the Ancients

**E4** **1.30** Holyoaks **4.05** Rules of Engagement **4.35** Scrubs **5.35** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** How I Met Your Mother **7.30** Rules of Engagement **8.30** Happy Endings **9.00** Film: Broken Arrow. (1996) Action thriller, with John Travolta and Christian Slater. **11.10** The Big Bang Theory

**FILM4** **2.40** Akeelah and the Bee (2006) **4.50** Just My Luck (2006) **6.45** The Princess Diaries (2001) **9.00** Jumper (2008) Fantasy thriller, starring Hayden Christensen. **10.45** Beneath (2007)

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## Choice

## BBC1

## BBC2

## ITV1

## Channel 4

## Channel 5

## Digital



### PERSPECTIVES: LENNY HENRY - FINDING SHAKESPEARE

ITV1, 10.15pm

In 2009 Lenny Henry made his debut as Othello at the West Yorkshire Playhouse; Henry's performance was hugely praised, and the production transferred to the West End. More recently he's starred in the National Theatre's acclaimed take on The Comedy of Errors. Not bad going for a guy who once claimed he had a deep-seated aversion to Shakespeare, especially his "gobbie-de-gook" language. Now Henry wants the rest of us to embrace the Bard, just as he's done, and he makes a start by hosting this documentary.

**6.00** Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Country Tracks. (R) Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.00** Sunday Politics. **1.05** EastEnders. **2.55** Bargain Hunt. (R) **3.40** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.40** Songs of Praise. **5.15** Titanic with Len Goodman. (R) **5.45** Land Girls. (R)

**6.30** BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

**7.00** Countryfile. Matt Baker visits a family farm in County Durham, while Julia Bradbury learns about an adder project on the moors and improvements to the River Wear's cleanliness.

**8.00** Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team head to the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in Wimbledon, where items of interest include a valuable brooch and one of John McEnroe's racquets.

**9.00** Silent Witness. New series. Part one of two. A triple murder looks like the work of a known serial killer.

**10.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **Room 101 - Extra Storage.** With Alice Cooper, Chris Tarrant and Chris Packham.

**11.05** The Syndicate. Drama about a group of lottery winners, starring Timothy Spall. (R) **12.05** The Sky at Night. **12.25** Weather. **12.30** Sign Zone: Armando's Tale of Charles Dickens. (R) **1.30** Holly City. (R) **2.30** One Night. (R) **3.30** BBC News.

**6.00** CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Film: 4 for Texas. (1963) Comedy Western, starring Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra. **1.20** Film: Ill Met By Moonlight. (1957) Fact-based Second World War thriller, starring Dirk Bogarde. **3.05** Film: The Wind and the Lion. (1975) Period adventure, with Sean Connery. **5.00** Flog It! (R)

**6.00** TOTP2: Girl Groups. Archive performances by some of the most popular all-girl groups to have appeared on the show since the 1960s, including the Supremes, Spice Girls and the Pointer Sisters. (R) **7.00** Sandhurst. The cadets face the prospect of killing the enemy. Previously shown on BBC4.

**8.00** The Best of Top Gear. Another collection of highlights from the show's 17th and 18th series, in which Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May got up to more motoring mischief.

**9.00** The Falklands Legacy with Max Hastings. The 1982 conflict's enduring influence.

**10.00** Match of the Day 2. Including highlights of Newcastle United v Liverpool.

**11.00** Twenty Twelve. Part one of two. The spoof documentary following the Olympic Deliverance team returns. (R)

**11.30** FILM: Michael Collins. (1996) Fact-based political drama, starring Liam Neeson.

**1.35** BBC News. **3.30** Close.

**6.00** CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Ade in Britain. (R) **10.30** May the Best House Win. (R) **11.30** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **12.30** ITV News; Weather. **12.35** You've Been Framed! (R) **1.05** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **2.05** Film: Columbo: A Case of Immunity. (1975) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk. **3.40** Midsomer Murders. (R) **5.40** Regional News; Weather. **5.55** ITV News; Weather.

**6.10** FILM: Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince. (2009) Fantasy adventure sequel, with Daniel Radcliffe.

**9.00** Titanic. Muriel Batley grows tired of her husband John's fawning, and reveals she knows a secret about the Earl, while engineer Jim Maloney meets a passenger who unsettles his wife.

**10.00** ITV News at Ten; Weather.

**10.15** Perspectives: Lenny Henry - Finding Shakespeare. The comedian charts his changing relationship with the Bard, from finding his works boring as a child to starring in productions of Othello and The Comedy of Errors.

**11.15** Premiership Rugby Union. Craig Doyle presents action from the latest fixtures, including Leicester Tigers v Worcester Warriors, Bath v Northampton Saints and Saracens v Harlequins.

**12.10** The Zone; ITV News Headlines. **2.30** River Monsters. (R) **3.20** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

**6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **7.00** Road to London 2012: That Paralympic Show. (R) **7.30** Channel 4 Presents - 2012: David Clarke - Part Two. (R) **7.35** Sailing: America's Cup Uncovered. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.25** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Sunday Brunch. **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30** The Simpsons. (R) **2.00** Film: Addams Family Values. (1993) Comedy sequel, starring Anjelica Huston and Raul Julia. **3.45** Film: Aliens in the Attic. (2009) Premiere. Children's sci-fi comedy, starring Carter Jenkins. **5.25** Time Team.

**6.25** Deal or No Deal. **7.25** Channel 4 News.

**7.55** 4thought.tv. A member of the public discusses turning away from mainstream religion.

**8.00** Disasters at Sea: Why Ships Sink. An investigation into why maritime catastrophes still occur.

**9.00** Homeland. The CIA tracks down Aileen before she reaches Mexico, while Carrie and Brody grow closer - only for a slip-up on her part to jeopardise their relationship.

**10.10** FILM: Sorority Row. (2009) Premiere. Horror remake, starring Briana Evigan.

**12.05** Film: The Descent. (2005) Horror, starring Shauna Macdonald and Natalie Mendoza. **1.55** Film: 5x2: Cinq Fois Deux. (2004) Drama, starring Valeria Bruni-Tedeschi and Stéphane Freiss. **3.30** Meeting Helen. (R) **3.40** Honeymoon. (R) **4.10** Hollyoaks. (R)

**6.00** Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowerbuds. (R) **6.25** City of Friends. (R) **6.35** Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) **6.50** Castle Farm. (R) **6.55** Igam Ogam. (R) **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Family! (R) **7.35** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.45** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **7.50** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **8.00** Little Princess. (R) **8.15** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.30** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **8.55** Milkshake! Show Songs. **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** The Mr Men Show. (R) **9.25** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.40** Mist: Sheepdog Tales. (R) **10.00** Inside Hollywood. (R) **10.10** Grey's Anatomy. (R) **11.05** Big Body Squad. (R) **12.05** Emergency Bikers. (R) **1.05** Cowboys Builders. (R) **2.00** Film: Winnie the Pooh: Springtime with Roo. (2004) Premiere. Animated adventure, with the voice of Jim Cummings. **3.15** Film: High School Musical 3: Senior Year. (2008) Teen musical sequel, starring Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens. **5.25** 5 News. **5.30** Film: Mrs Doubtfire. (1993) Comedy, with Robin Williams.

**8.00** Once Upon a Time. **9.00** FILM: Rush Hour 2. (2001) Action comedy sequel, starring Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker. **10.40** FILM: In Hell. (2003) Adventure, with Jean-Claude Van Damme.

**12.35** The World of Stupid Criminals. (R) **1.05** SuperCasino. **4.00** The FBI Files. (R) **4.50** Rough Guide to Islands. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

**ITV2** **3.00** All Star Family Fortunes **4.00** Film: Dennis (1993) **5.55** The Cube **6.55** Britain's Got Talent **8.00** Britain's Got More Talent **9.00** Benidorm. Mick discovers a secret about Madge's husband-to-be. **10.00** Film: Hellboy II: The Golden Army (2008)

**ITV3** **3.40** An Audience with Cliff Richard **4.45** An Audience with Diana Ross **5.50** Agatha Christie's Poirot **9.00** Film: The Witches of Eastwick. (1987) Fantasy comedy, starring Jack Nicholson. **11.15** Cracker

**ITV4** **11.00** Live British Touring Car Championship. The opening round of the season from Brands Hatch. **6.00** The Sweeney **7.00** Minder **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00** Film: Play Misty for Me. (1971) Psychological thriller, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood. **11.10** Film: The Long Kiss Goodnight (1996)

**BBC THREE** **7.00** The Voice UK **8.25** Film: Streetdance. (2010) Drama, starring Nicola Burley. **10.00** Pramface **10.30** Family Guy **11.15** American Dad!

**BBC FOUR** **7.00** The Pharaoh Who Conquered the Sea **8.00** The Man Who Discovered Egypt **9.00** Madness on Wheels: Rallying's Craziest Years. The motorsport's Group B era. **10.00** Film: City of Life and Death (2009)

**E4** **3.10** Being Erica **4.10** Ugly Betty **8.05** 90210. Naomi embarrasses herself while trying to get over Austin. **9.00** Desperate Housewives **11.00** Skins

**FILM4** **2.45** Aquamarine (2006) **4.45** Stardust (2007) **7.10** The Seeker: The Dark Is Rising (2007) **9.00** Sleeping with the Enemy. (1991) Thriller, starring Julia Roberts. **10.55** Donkey Punch (2008) Thriller, starring Jaime Winstone.

## Benjamins Wedding Fayre

Sunday 1st April 2012. 11am - 4pm

### Newly Refurbished Ground Floor Ceremony and Reception Room

### Catwalk Shows 12.00pm & 2.00pm

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# Monday

**BBC1** 10.00 Breakfast, 9.15 Animal 24-7, 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather, 11.00 My Worst Deal, 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather, 12.15 The Big Breakfast; 1.00 The Big Breakfast; Regional News; Weather, 1.45 Doctors, 2.15 Escape to the Country, 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News, 3.00 CBBC, 5.15 Pointless, (R) 5.15 The Big Breakfast; 6.00 The Big Breakfast; Programmes; Weather, 10.00 The One Show, 7.30 Bang Goes the Theory; BBC News; Regional News, 8.00 EastEnders, 8.30 The Great Apprentice Scandal, Panorama, 9.00 Silent Witness, 9.15 The Big Breakfast; Regional News; Weather, 10.35 A Question of Sport, 11.05 Late Kick Off, 11.35 The Estate, 12.05 Film: Lawn Dogs, (1997) Drama, starring Mischka Barton and Sam Claflin, 12.15 The Big Breakfast; Regional News; About Pandas (R) 2.50 One Night, (R) 3.00 Antiques Road Trip, (R) 4.35 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 Cbeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 Cbeebies. 11.30 Film: *Hill Drivers*. (1957) Crime drama, starring Stanley Baker. 1. Animal Park. 2.15 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Frog It. (R) 4.30 The Big Fish. 5.00 The World Where You Live. 6.00 Mouth is 6.00 just a Minute. 6.30 Eggheads. 7.00 Castle Commando. 8.00 Chaplains: Angels of Mersey. 8.30 The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Koch. 9.00 Modern Spies. 10.00 Mock the Week. (R) 10.30 Newsnight. 11.00 Film: *Mr. Factor*. (R) 11.30 Film: *Mr. Factor*, starring Nicol Williamson. 1.10 BBC News. 4.35 The Super League Show. 5.05 Close.

**TNT** 10.00 Daybreak: 8.30 Lorraine: 9.25 The Jerry Kelly Show: 10.30 This Morning.  
**12.30** Loose Women: 1.30 ITV News; Weather: 1.55 Regional News; Weather: 2.00 60 Minute Takeaway: 3.30 Dickinson's Real Deal: (R) 3.50 The Big Breakfast: 4.00  
**5.00** The Chase: (R) 6.00 Regional News; Weather: 6.30 ITV News; Weather: 7.00 Emmerdale: 7.30 Coronation Street: 8.00 The Bill: 8.30 Lesley: 9.00 So... So Banned: 9.30  
**10.00** ITV News at Ten; Weather: 10.30 Regional News; Weather: 10.35 The Agenda: 11.05 Mayday: (R) 11.35 First Steps Morgans Life Stories: Kym Marsh: (R) 12.30 The Zone: ITV News Headlines: 1.00  
**1.30** The Bill: 2.00 The Bill: 2.30 The Bill: 3.00 Nightscreen: 4.35 The Jerry Kelly Show: (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.15 The Hoobs. (P) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. 8.00 According to Jim. 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 The Quinceañera. (R) 9.30 The Bush. (R) 10.00 Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.00 The Secret Millionaire USA. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. 12.35 River Cottage Bites. (R) 12.45 Film: The Quinceañera. (1952) Romantic comedy drama, starring Elizabeth Taylor. 1.00 The Quinceañera. No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Four in a Bed. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thoughttv. 8.00 Damien: The Quinceañera. (R) 8.30 The Bashing. (R) 9.00 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. 11.00 Homeland. (R) 12.10 Random Acts. 12.15 Damien Irish: Thoughts, Work, Life. 1.05 Death Row. (R) 2.00 Film: Never Die Alone. (2004) Crime thriller. (R) 2.30 The Hoobs. (R) 3.00 The Bush. 4.15 Privileged. (R) 4.55 90210. (R) 5.35 Countdown. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 Live with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 London: The Inside Story. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 The Bill. (R) 2.15 The Bill. (R) 2.45 Defending Our Kids: The Julie Potts Story. (2003) Premiere. Fact-based drama, starring Angie Potts. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 The Bill. (R) 7.30 The Bill. (R) 8.00 Ultimate Police Interceptors; 5 News at 9. 9.00 Film: Little Nicky. (2000) Comedy fantasy, starring Adam Sandler. 10.55 Film: Anger Management. (2003) Comedy, starring Jack Nicholson and Michael Douglas. 11.45 Update. (R) 12.00 SuperCasinò. 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Wildfire SOS. (R) 5.10 House Doctors. (R)

## Tuesday

**BBC1** 10.00 Breakfast, 9.15 Animal 24/7: 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer: (R) BBC News; Weather, 11.00 My Worst Deal, 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather, 12.15 The Big Breakfast: 12.30 The Big Breakfast: Regional News: Weather, 1.45 Doctors, 2.15 Escape to the Country, (R) 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News, 3.05 CBBC, 3.15 Pointless, (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather, 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather, 7.00 The Big Breakfast: 7.15 The Big Breakfast: Regional News, 8.00 Holby City, 9.00 The Syndicate, 10.00 BBC News, 10.25 Regional News; Weather, National Lottery Update, 10.35 Who Do You Think You Are? (US, 11.20 Lionel Richie at the BBC), (R) 11.00 The Big Breakfast: 11.15 The Apprentice, (R) 12.50 One Night, (R) 2.25 We Won't Drop the Baby, (R) 3.15 Britain's First Popstar Album, (R) 3.45 BBC News.

<b>BBC2</b>	6.00 Cbeebies, 7.00 CBBC, 8.30 Cbeebies, 11.30 Film: Tiger Bay	8.30
(1959) British thriller, starring John Mills		1.05
Animal Park. 2.15 To Buy or Not to Buy. (R)		3.00
Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flog It! (R)		4.30
Breakaway. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your		7.00
Mouth is. 6.00 Just a Minute. 6.30 Eggheads. 7.00		7.00
Top Gear. (R) 8.00 The Hair Bible: Education		8.30
Horizon. 10.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. (R)		10.30
10.30 Newsnight: Weather. 11.20 WikiLeaks: The		11.20
Secret Life of a Superwoman. (R) 12.20 How God		12.20
Made the English. (R) 1.20 BBC News. 3.50		3.50
Close.		

**TV1** 6.00 Daybreak, 8.30 Lorraine, 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show, 10.30 This Morning, 12.30 Loose Women, 1.30 ITV News; Weather, 1.55 Regional News; Weather, 2.00 6.0 Minute Madeo, 3.00 Dickie Doo, 4.00 Regional News, 4.30 The Alan Partridge Show, 5.00 Wildside, 5.30 Murdoch's, 6.00 The Chase, 6.30 Regional News; Weather, 6.30 ITV News; Weather, 7.00 Emmerdale, 7.30 Countrywide Kitchen, 8.00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?, 8.30 Martin Clutter, 9.00 Logan, Katherine Jenkins, Pat Cash and Annabel Croft, 9.30 Smugglers Special, 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather, 10.30 Regional News; Weather, 10.35 Benidorm, (R) 11.35 Ladette to Headlines, 3.00 Crossing Jordan, (R) 3.45 ITV Nightline, 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.20 The Hoobs. R. 6.45  
The Hoobs. R. 7.15 Freshly  
Squeezed. 7.40 According to Jim. 8.05 According  
to Jim. 8.35 Everybody Loves Raymond. R.  
Frasier. R. 9.35 Frasier. P. 10.00 The Big Bang  
Theory. R. 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. R. 11.00  
The Secret Millionaire USA. R. 12.00 Channel 4  
News. 12.30 News. 1.00 News. 1.30 News.  
Baker Brothers. R. 12.35 River Cottage. Bites.  
**Channel 5** 12.50 Film: Father Goose. (1964) Comedy drama,  
with Cary Grant. 3.05 Channel 4 Presents — 2012:  
A Year On Film. Part Two. 3.30 Countdown.  
4.00 News. No Day In The Sun. 4.30 News.  
3.40 Four in a Bed. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R. 6.30)  
Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought TV.  
8.00 News. 8.30 News. 9.00 News. 9.30  
Undateable. 10.00 Facejacker. 10.35 Film:  
The Road Jack. 11.10 Random Acts. 11.15 Desperate  
Housewives. 12.10 Poker. 1.10 KOTV Boxing  
Night. 1.40 News. 2.10 News. 2.40 News.  
Cup Undeniable. 2.35 Night Poker. (R. 3.35)  
FILM World Superheroes. (R. 4.00 Brief Encounters  
of the Sporting Mind: Ultra Running. R. 4.05)  
2012 London 2012: Paralympics Extra. A  
sitting volleyball final. 5.00 News. 5.00  
Grudge Match. (R. 5.10 Full Metal Challenge.

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Weight Shift. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 London: The Inside Story. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.10 Film: Let Me Call You Sweetheart. (1997) Mystery. starring Meredith Baxter. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 CSI: NY. (R) 6.55 CSI: Miami. (R) 7.00 Trainers. (R) 5 News. 8.00 Rory McGrath's Pub Dig. 5 News at 9. 9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. 10.00 CSI: NY. (R) 10.55 CSI: Miami. (R) 11.55 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 12.50 SuperCasino. 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.10 HouseBusters. (R)

## Wednesday

**BBC1** 10.00 Breakfast, 9.15 Animal 24/7: 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; 11.00 BBC News; Weather, 11.00 My Worst Deal, 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather, 12.15 The Big Breakfast; 12.30 BBC News; Weather, 1.15 Regional News; Weather, 1.35 Doctors, 1.55 Escape to the Country, 3.00 BBC News; Weather; 3.15 Regional News; 3.05 CBBC, 5.15 Pointless, 5.30 BBC News; Weather, 6.30 Regional News; programmes; Weather, 7.00 The One Show, 7.30 CBBC, 7.45 The Big Breakfast; 8.00 BBC News; Weather, 8.15 Regional News; Weather, 8.30 The Apprentice, 10.00 BBC News, 10.25 Regional News; Weather, 10.35 The National Lottery Wednesday Night Draws, 10.45 Sexism in Football?; National Lottery Update, 11.00 The Big Breakfast; 11.15 Regional News, 12.40 Sign Zone, See Hear, (R) 1.10 Watchdog, (R) 2.10 One Night, (R) 3.10 BBC News, 3.15

**BBCEBbies.** 11.30 Film: Skyrunners. (2009) Premiere. Sci-fi adventure, starring Joey Pollari. **1.00** See Hear, **1.30** Animal Park, **2.15** To Buy or Not to Buy, **(R)** **3.00** Helicopter Heroes, **(R)** **3.45** Flop It! **(R)** **4.30** Breakaway, **5.15** Put Your Money Where Your Mouth is, **6.00** Just a Minute, **6.30** Eggheads, **7.00** The Fisherman's Apprentice with Monty Halls, **8.00** Our Food, **9.00** Woolly Mammoth: Secrets from the Ice, **10.00** The Apprentice: You're Fired! **10.30** Newsnight: Weather, **11.20** Golf: The Masters, **12.20** Medium: **(R)** **1.45** BBC News, **3.10** Close.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak, 8.30 Lorraine, 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show, 10.30 This Morning, 12.30 Loose Women, 1.30 ITV News; Weather, 1.55 Regional News; Weather, 2.00 60 Minute Makeover, 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal, (F) 3.59 The Big Breakfast, 4.00 M4 Motors (F), 4.30 5.00 The Chase, 6.00 Regional News; Weather, 6.30 ITV News; Weather, 7.00 Emmerdale, 7.30 Live UEFA Champions League, Chelsea v Benfica (Kick-off 7.45pm), 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather, 10.30 Regional News; Weather, 10.35 Live UEFA Champions League: Everton v Arsenal, 11.00 Warriors, 11.30 12.30 ITV News Headlines, 2.35 British Touring Car Championship Highlights, 3.45 ITV Nightscreen, 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.10 The Treacle People. (R) 6.20 The Hoobs. (R) 6.45 The Hoobs. (R) 7.15 Freshly Squeezed. 7.40 According to Jim. 8.05 According to Jim. 8.35

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**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff, 11.10 LIVE with Gabby, 12.10 5 News Lunchtime, 12.15 London: The Inside Story (R) 1.15 Home and Away, 1.45 Neighbours, 2.15 CSI: NY (R) 3.15 Film: Montana Sky, (2007) Drama, starring Ashley Williams, 5.00 5 News at 5, 5.30 Neighbours, (R) 6.00 Home and Away, (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30, 7.00 Ultimate Police Interceptors: (R) 5 News Update, 8.00 Cowboy Traders; 5 News at 9, 9.00 NCIS: 10.00 Law & Order: Criminal Intent, 11.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit, (R) 11.55 Poker: The Big Game, 12.55 SuperCasino, 4.00 House Doctor, (R) 4.25 Wildlife SOS, (R) 5.10 HouseBusters, (R)

## Thursday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast, 9.15 Animal 24/7: 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer (BBC News; Weather, 11.00 My Worst Deal (11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather, 12.15 Bargain Hunt (12.30 News; Weather, 1.30 Regional News; Weather, 1.45 Doctors, 2.15 Escape to the Country, 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News, 3.05 CBBC, 5.15 The Big Bang Theory (5.30 News; Weather, 6.00 Regional News Programmes; Weather, 7.00 The One Show, 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News, 8.00 Watchdog, 9.00 Land of the Lost (9.15 News; Weather, 9.30 The One Show, 10.00 News; Weather, 10.35 Adele Live at the Royal Albert Hall (11.15 Film: Small Time Crooks, (1999) Comedy, directed by and starring Woody Allen, R.15) Skating Lessons (1999) Comedy, starring Greta Garbo, Scandals (1999) Comedy, R.14) Countryfile, (R) 3.40 Orbis: Earth's Extraordinary Journey, (R) 2.40 BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 Cbeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 Cbeebies. 11.35 Film: *Sinbad the Sailor*, (1947) Swashbuckling adventure, starring Douglas Fairbanks Jr. 1.30 Animal Park. 2.15 *To Buy or Not to Buy*. (R) 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.35 *Flag It!* (R) 4.30 Breakaway. 5.15 *Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is*. 6.00 Just a Minute. 7.00 *Top Heads*. 7.30 *The Hairy Bikers* Revisited. (R) 8.00 *National Geographic*: The Real Jungle Book. Bear. 9.00 *White Heat*. 10.00 *The Sarah Millar* Television Programme. 10.30 *Newsnight*. Weather. 11.20 *Modern Spies*. (R) 12.20 *Medium*. (R) 1.45 *BBC News*. 3.45 *Close*.

**TV4** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News. Weather. 1.55 Regional News. Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Midsomer Murders. (R) 4.00 Regional Weather. 5.00 The Chase. (R) 5.50 Regional News. Weather. 6.00 Regional News. Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Because We're Worth It. Tonight. 8.30 Emmerdale. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Fraud Squad. 10.00 ITV News at Ten. Weather. 10.30 Regional News. Weather. 10.35 Take Me Out. (R) 11.50 The Big Reveal. 12.00 Regional News. Weather. 1.00 ITV News Headlines. 2.20 Because We're Worth It. Tonight. (R) 2.45 ITV Nightscreen. 4.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.10 The Treacle People (R) 6.20 The Hoobs (R)

**9.45** The H-bos. (R) **7.15** Freshly Squeezed. **7.40** According to Jim. **8.05** According to Jim. **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.05** Frasier. (R) **9.30** The Bill Engvall Show. (R) **9.55** The Bill Engvall Show. **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.00** The George Costanza Movie. (R) **11.30** The George Costanza Movie. **12.00** Channel 4 News Summary. **12.05** The Fabulous Baker Brothers. **12.35** Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. **12.45** The Bill Engvall Show. **1.10** The Bill Engvall Show. **1.35** starring John Garfield. **1.30** Countdown. **4.00** Deal or No Deal. **5.00** Come Dine with Me. **5.30** Four in a Bed. **6.00** The Simpsons. (R) **6.30** Hollywood. **6.55** The Simpsons. (R) **7.00** The Simpsons. (R) **7.30** Your House in Order. **9.00** One Born: What Happened Next? Catching up with three couples who appeared on the programme. **10.00** Deal or No Deal. Last in the series. **10.55** Random Acts. **11.05** Random Acts. **11.30** Random Acts. **11.55** Random Acts. **12.00** The Bill Engvall Show. (R) **1.10** Love Rat. (R) **1.35** The Perfect Murder. (R) **2.05** The Real Dr Crippen. (R) **3.00** Portrait of a Young Man Drowning. (R) **3.15** Drifting. (R) **3.30** Drifting. (R) **3.55** Drifting. (R) **4.25** Time Team. (R) **5.20** Countdown. (R)

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 Live with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 NCIS. (R) 3.15 Film: Murder without Conviction. (2004) 3.15 Film: Meeting Megan White. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.15 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Holiday Heaven on Earth. 7.25 Ultimate Police Interceptors. 7.55 Live UEFA Europa League Football. Athletic Bilbao v Schalke 04. (Kick-off 8.05pm). 10.00 Film: The Glimmer Man. 10.15 The Bill. 10.45 The Bill. 11.00 Film: 12.00 Inside Hollywood. (R) 12.05 SuperSoccer. 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.52 Wildlife SOS. (R). 5.10 HouseBusters. (R)

## Friday

**BBC1** 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Animal 24.7-9.45  
Homes Under the Hammer. (R) 10.45  
My Worst Deal. 11.30 Cash in the Attic. (R) 12.00  
The Preston Passion. Fern Britton presents this  
documentary about the 1981-82 season. 1.00  
drama. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.05 Regional  
News; Weather. 1.15 Film: National Treasure: Book  
of Secrets. (2007) Adventure sequel, starring  
Nicolas Cage. 3.10 Film: Cars. (2006) Pixar  
animation. 5.00 News. 5.15 Regional News.  
Wilson and Paul Newman. 5.00 Match of the Day  
Live. Barnsley v West Ham United (Kick-off  
5.15pm). 7.25 BBC News; Weather. 7.45 Regional  
News. Programmes; Weather. 8.00. EastEnders.  
8.15 The World's Funniest Home Videos. 8.30  
Lost Wolves. 10.00 BBC News. 10.10 Regional  
News; Weather. 10.20 New Tricks. (R) 11.20 The  
National Lottery Friday Night Draws. 11.30  
EastEnders. 1.25 Weather. 1.31 Sign Zone.  
1.35 The World's Funniest Home Videos. 1.40  
Trip. (R) 3.15 Britain's First Photo Album. (R) 3.45  
BBC News.

**BBC2** 6.00 cBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. **8.30** cBeebies. **11.30** Film: *The Gumball Rally*. (1976) Car-race comedy, starring Michael Sarrazin. **1.15** Animal Park. **2.15** To Buy or Not to Buy. (R) **3.00** Helicopter Heroes. (R) **3.45** Flog It! (R) **4.30** Breakaway. **5.15** Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. **6.00** Just a Minute. **6.30** Eggheads. (R) **7.00** The Gardeners' World. **7.30** The Gardeners' World. **9.00** Brick by Brick: Rebuilding Our Past. **10.00** Twenty Twelve. **10.30** Qi XL. (R) **11.15** Film: *Minority Report*. (2002) Sci-fi thriller, starring Tom Cruise. **1.30** Film: *Heaven*. (2002) Thriller. **3.05** BBC News. **3.45** Close.

**ITV1** 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.10 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 11.15 Murder, She Wrote (R) 12.15 The Weather. 1.30 The Planet's Funniest Animals. (R) 1.05 Film: Dragonheart (1996) Fantasy adventure, starring Dennis Quaid. 3.00 Madder Mummers (R) 5.00 The News. 6.00 The Regionals. 6.15 W. News. 6.30 The Weather. 7.30 The Planet's Funniest Animals. (R) 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Pops in the Park. 8.30 The Weather. 8.45 The News. 9.00 This Is Lionel Richie. 11.00 ITV News. 11.15 Film: Miami Vice. (2006) Crime thriller, starring Colin Farrell and Jamie Foxx. 1.30 The Zone. 1.45 News Headlines. 2.30 Film: Casing the Joint. 3.00 Dr. Oetzel. 3.15 Shirlie. 3.45 The Zone. 4.30 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

**Channel 4** 6.05 *Sail Mail*, (R) 6.10 *The Treacle People*, (R) 6.20 *The Hoobs*, (R) 6.45 *The Hoobs*, (R) 7.15 *Freshly Squeezed*, 7.40 *According to Jim*, 8.05 *According to Jim*, 8.30 *According to Jim*, 8.55 *According to Jim*, 9.15 *Fraser*, (R) 9.40 *Jim*: King of Kings, (1961) Biblical epic starring Jeffrey Hunter, 12.45 *Jim*: The Searchers, (1956) John Ford's Western, starring Jeffrey Hunter, 1.15 *Jim*: The Searchers, (1956) David Smith - Part Two. The boccia player reflects on competing at an elite level, (R) 3.10 *Countdown*, 4.00 *Deal or No Deal*, 5.00 *Come Dine with Me*, 5.15 *Worms*, 5.45 *Countdown*, 6.00 *Countdown*, 6.15 *Hollyoaks*, 7.00 *Channel 4 News*, 7.30 *4thought*, tv, 7.35 *Marrying Prince Harry*, 8.00 *Come Dine with Me*, 9.00 *The Million Pound Drop Live*, 10.30 *Rude Tube*: *Viral Ads*, (R) 11.35 *The Mad Bad Ad Show*, 11.45 *Mad Bad Ad Show*, 12.15 *Mad Bad Ad Show*, 12.45 *Mad Bad Ad Show*, 1.15 *Johnny Knoxville*, 1.45 *Film*: *Nurse Betty*, (2000) Comedy thriller, starring Renée Zellweger, 3.35 *Random Acts*, 3.40 *My Name Is Earl*, (R) 4.25 *My Name Is Earl*, 4.30 *My Name Is Earl*, 4.35 *Countdown*, (R) 5.55 *TBA*.

**Channel 5** 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.20 5 News. 1.25 Maccy's Mania (R) 2.55 Home and Away. 3.12 Neighbours. 1.55 NCIS. (R) 2.50 Film: High Society. (1956) Musical. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 Inside Hollywood. (R) 6.35 Ultimate Police Interceptors. 7.00 Rory McGrath's Pub Dig. (R) 5 News. 8.00 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers; 5 News at 9. 9.00 The Mentalist. 10.00 Castle. 11.00 Law & Order: Criminal Intent. (R) 11.55 Inside Hollywood. 12.00 SuperCasino. 3.55 Motorsport Mundial. 4.25 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.10 HouseBusters. (R)



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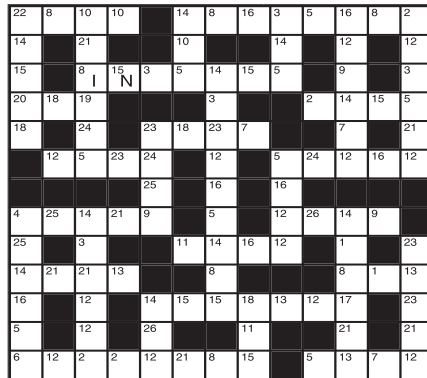
# thechronicle

## Brain Gym

No.162

### Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
V	Z	L	S	E	Y	J	N	H	F	A	G	I
C	P	B	W	Q	D	O	T	K	X	U	M	R

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### Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

#### Cryptic Clues:

##### Across

- At which one comes to the parting of the ways (10)
- Rod, pole or perch (5)
- Scouts go round after fifty insects (7)
- Pickle, perhaps, specially for game (8)
- It may be precious, though nothing to a friend (4)
- Quietly fasten on a shrub (6)
- No pegs, perhaps, for washing (6)
- Tree in hand (4)
- Labels difficult to get rid of? (8)
- Storm about like a politician in a fury (7)
- Prepared to explode - or prepared not to explode! (5)
- So comical one is when saving (10)

##### Down

- Many are fond of a bit of spice (5)
- Notes the material for making a film (2,3,3)
- Without it, the speaker would dry up! (6)
- A singular occasion (4)
- Stand up perhaps to receive the sweep (7)
- It's useful for plot- ters (5,5)
- Beefy team of sterling worth? (10)
- Precise remedy (8)
- Mohammedan claims I am converted (7)
- Master's current form (6)
- It may support a board of education (5)
- Father in agony (4)

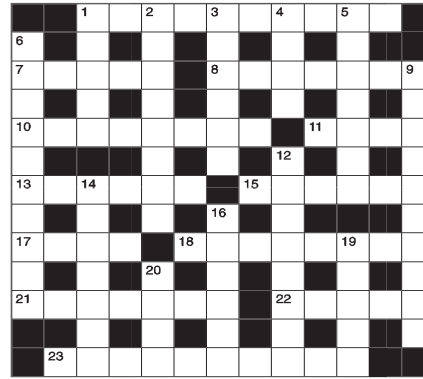
#### Quick Clues:

##### Across

- On the whole (2,3,5)
- Respond (5)
- Of pottery (7)
- Border (8)
- Dejected (4)
- Ebb (6)
- Opposed (6)
- Standard (4)
- Serenity (8)
- Building (7)
- Bake (5)
- Stay away from school (4,6)

##### Down

- Well done! (5)
- Posture (8)
- Edict (6)
- Area measure (4)
- Speculator (7)
- Choice (10)
- Make amends (10)
- Hail Mary (3,5)
- Friendly (7)
- Rush (6)
- Precise (5)
- Very small (4)



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:

CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Prophet; 7 Danes; 9 Tot; 10 Adoration; 12 Sepicentia; 15 Second-class; 17 How are you; 19 Rod; 21 Kneel; 22 Desired. Down: 1 Brood; 2 Spy; 3 Lead; 4 Past tense; 5 Deposit; 8 Uracil; 11 Decorated; 13 Tidied; 14 Recount; 16 Cones; 18 Over; 20 Vim. QUICK - Across: 6 Beguile; 7 Quiet; 9 Gay; 10 Stretcher; 12 Deliverance; 15 Story-teller; 17 Provender; 19 Try; 21 Elite; 22 Agility. Down: 1 Decoy; 2 Out; 3 Flat; 4 Purchaser; 5 Defence; 8 Reveal; 11 Depravity; 13 Intone; 14 Startle; 16 Trité; 18 Edge; 20 Old.

### Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

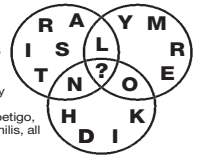
7			8		3			4
	8				9		7	
		4		2		6		
2	7							3
	3	1	6		4	7	2	
5					7			6
		6		7		5		
	2		1			8	4	
			5	2				1

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:

9	3	5	1	7	1	6	4	2
7	6	4	9	2	5	8	1	
2	1	8	4	6	5	3	7	9
4	2	3	5	1	7	6	9	
6	7	1	9	3	6	4	2	5
5	9	6	2	4	8	1	3	7
1	4	2	6	8	9	7	5	3
3	5	7	1	2	4	9	6	8
6	8	9	7	5	3	2	1	4

### Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



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The large home is on a good-sized plot which is particularly private to the rear

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The property, in Cotwall End Road, is convenient for local schools and shops while being just a short distance from the countryside.

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It is set in a good-sized plot which is particularly private to the rear and has ample parking to the front. On the ground floor is a study measuring 6ft 5in by 4ft 2in, while the lounge is 14ft 1in by 10ft 11in with an inset feature inglenook style fireplace with living flame gas coal fire and tiled hearth.

The dining room is 11ft by 10ft 11in, the conservatory 13ft by 11ft 4in and the family/breakfast room 13ft 10in by 9ft 1in.

The kitchen - 11ft 6in by 9ft - is

fitted with an extensive range of units including base cupboards, drawer units, display units, work top surfaces, inset one-and-a-half bowl acrylic sink unit with mixer taps, wall cupboards, built-in double oven and gas hob with cooker hood.

There is a utility area with provision for washing machine, and a WC with low-level suite and wash hand basin.

On the first floor bedroom one has a patio door onto a balcony which overlooks the rear garden, and there are three more bedrooms and a bathroom with panelled bath with electric shower and screen, wash hand basin in vanity unit and low-level WC.

### Garage

There is also a shower room with shower, pedestal wash hand basin and low-level WC.

Outside is a lawned front garden with shrub borders and wide asphalt driveway to the integral garage.

There is also a storeroom and to the rear a good sized private and well laid out garden with patio, random stone walling, lawns and shrubs.

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The kitchen - 11ft 6in by 9ft - is fitted with an extensive range of units



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<div><div></div><div><div><b>OLDBURY</b></div><div><b>Apsley Road</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Semi detached house</li><li>* Two reception rooms</li><li>* Four bedrooms</li><li>* Bathroom and Shower room</li><li>* Garage</li><li>* Pleasant Garden</li><li>* No upward chain</li></ul></div><div><div>Offers in the region of</div><div><b>£189,950</b></div></div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div><div><b>CRADLEY HEATH</b></div><div><b>Lee Road</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Detached house</li><li>* Kitchen/breakfast room</li><li>* Four bedrooms</li><li>* Close to Haden Hill Park</li><li>* Downstairs w.c</li><li>* Garage</li><li>* No upward chain</li></ul></div><div><div>Offers in the region of</div><div><b>£185,000</b></div></div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div><div><b>BIRMINGHAM Quinton</b></div><div><b>Ridgacre Road</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Much improved</li><li>* Fitted kitchen</li><li>* Bathroom with shower cubicle</li><li>* 3 bedrooms</li><li>* Off road parking</li><li>* No upward chain</li></ul></div><div><div>Offers in the region of</div><div><b>£142,500</b></div></div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div><div><b>OLDBURY</b></div><div><b>Albert Road</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Semi detached</li><li>* Two reception rooms</li><li>* Three bedroom</li><li>* In need of modernisation</li><li>* Good sized garden</li><li>* Garage</li></ul></div><div><div>Offers in the region of</div><div><b>£139,950</b></div></div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div><div><b>OLDBURY</b></div><div><b>Warley Road</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Semi detached house</li><li>* Spacious ground floor accommodation</li><li>* Kitchen opening onto conservatory</li><li>* Two bedrooms</li><li>* Excellent sized rear garden</li></ul></div><div><div>Offers in the region of</div><div><b>£129,950</b></div></div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div><div><b>BIRMINGHAM Quinton</b></div><div><b>Quinton Road West</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* End terraced house</li><li>* Three bedrooms</li><li>* Good sized garden</li><li>* Conservatory</li></ul></div><div><div>Offers in the region of</div><div><b>£127,500</b></div></div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div><div><b>OLDBURY</b></div><div><b>Tittford Road</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Mid terraced house</li><li>* Two good sized bedrooms</li><li>* First floor bathroom</li><li>* Two reception rooms</li><li>* Good sized rear garden</li></ul></div><div><div>£99,950</div></div></div></div>
<div><div></div><div><div><b>CRADLEY HEATH</b></div><div><b>Meadow Walk</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Modern kitchen and bathroom</li><li>* Three bedrooms</li><li>* Off road parking</li><li>* Garage</li><li>* No upward chain</li></ul></div><div><div>Offers in the region of</div><div><b>£89,950</b></div></div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div><div><b>HALESOWEN</b></div><div><b>Vicarage Road</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Mid terraced house</li><li>* Two bedrooms</li><li>* Good sized garden</li><li>* No upward chain</li><li>* Ideal for first time buyer/Investor</li></ul></div><div><div>Offers in the region of</div><div><b>£89,950</b></div></div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div><div><b>STOURBRIDGE Clent</b></div><div><b>Cobblers Cottage Holy Cross Green</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Unique Cottage with some original features</li><li>* Superb rural location</li><li>* 2 Bedrooms * Fitted kitchen</li><li>* Gas boiler/radiator heating system</li><li>* UPVC double glazing to most windows</li><li>* Parking space for 2 vehicles</li></ul></div><div><div>Monthly rent of £695</div></div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div><div><b>SMETHWICK</b></div><div><b>The Vicarage St Matthews Road</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Large detached house</li><li>* 4 bedrooms</li><li>* Lounge, dining room and study</li><li>* Alarm system</li><li>* UPVC to most windows &amp; GCH</li><li>* Garage &amp; gardens</li><li>* gas boiler/radiator heating system</li></ul></div><div><div>Monthly rent of £625</div></div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div><div><b>DUDLEY Tipton</b></div><div><b>19 Old Port Close</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Detached floor self-contained flat</li><li>* One bedroom</li><li>* Open plan lounge/ kitchen</li><li>* Allocated parking</li><li>* Furnished and heated</li><li>* Kitchen with many appliances</li><li>* View now!</li></ul></div><div><div>Monthly rent of £395</div></div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div><div><b>STOURBRIDGE Hagley</b></div><div><b>74 Worcester Road</b></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* First floor office building</li><li>* extremely well-presented</li><li>* prominent position &amp; good location</li><li>* private parking/nr railway station</li><li>* gas boiler/radiator heating</li><li>* nia: 185.67 sq.m. (1,996.81 sq.ft.)</li></ul></div><div><div>Annual rent Of £25,000</div></div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div><div><b>CRADLEY HEATH</b></div><div><b>90 Station Road</b></div><div><p>A detached unit situated in convenient location in easy walking distance of Old Hill Railway Station comprising: workshop, office, male and female toilets. forecourt parking.</p><p>GIA: 261.14 sq.m. (2,810 sq.ft.), NIA: 248.78 sq.m. (2,676 sq.ft.)</p></div><div><div>Annual rent Of £12,500</div></div></div></div>



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#### CRADLEY HEATH, STATION ROAD

A rectangular shaped site with access off Station Road ideally suited for 45-50 car sales pitch or development with B1 (Business) or B8 (Storage and Distribution) uses, subject to obtaining the necessary planning consents. We understand that water and electricity is available on site subject to re-connection costs. A legal pack is available upon request.

**£900 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, OXENTON CROFT

A Well Presented Three Bedroom Detached Property on the Popular Squirrels Estate, comprising of: Shower Cubical in Master Bedroom, Living Room, Kitchen with Dining Area, Downstairs WC, House Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing Throughout, Garage, Driveway for Three Cars. Viewing Recommended.

**£750 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, SANDERSON PLACE

Located in Hayley Green, is this unfurnished first floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Spacious Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Master with En-Suite, Bathroom and Parking Space. Viewing Highly Recommended.

**£650 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, LONG LANE

A fully refurbished three bedroom detached property, close to the railway station and Blackheath town centre. Comprising of: Two Double and One Single Bedrooms, Large Lounge with Dining Area, Breakfast Kitchen with All Integrated White Goods, Bathroom with Shower & Separate WC, Double Glazing Gas Central Heating, Parking Available for One Car. Viewing Highly Recommended

**£650 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, HOWLEY GRANGE ROAD

A unfurnished semi detached house, in a well sought after location, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Two Living Rooms, Fitted kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Small Rear Garden, Driveway Parking

**£599 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, WILLOWSBROOK ROAD

Located in the popular area of Hurst Green, close to motorway access, transport links to Birmingham and good schools, is this unfurnished semi detached house, comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room/Dining Room, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Utility Room, Downstairs WC, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Front & Rear Gardens, Garage and Driveway

**£595 PCM**



#### HAGLEY, MILL POOL CLOSE

Located in a peaceful location with lovely views is this unfurnished luxury ground floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Through Lounge/Dining Room with Views Across Open Countryside, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bath with Shower & Separate WC, Communal Gardens, Parking Space and Garage. Available Beginning May

**£595 PCM**



#### CRADLEY HEATH, MARY MACARTHUR DRIVE

An unfurnished semi detached house, close to local transport, and shops, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Garage, Cul-de-sac, Parking, Gardens

**£575 PCM**



#### ROWLEY REGIS, FARM ROAD

Being refurbished and well presented is this a large and spacious semi-detached home, comprising of: Two Double Bedrooms and One Single Bedroom, Two Spacious Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs WC, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front and Rear Gardens, On Road Parking. Unfurnished. A must See Property.

**£575 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, SUMMERHILL

Located within a stones throw of Halesowen town centre, is this impressive two bedroomed mid terrace, with inspection highly recommended, comprises of: Gas Radiator Heating, Double Glazing, Dining Room with Feature Fireplace, Rear Sitting Room, Attractive Kitchen, Fitted Shower Room but NO bath, Two Double Bedrooms and Pleasant Rear Garden, On Road Parking

**£550 PCM**



#### CRADLEY HEATH, MOSSVALE CLOSE

Being tastefully re-furnished to a high standard and within walking distance of Old Hill train station is this three bedroom mid-terrace property, comprising of: Two Large Double and One Large Single Bedrooms, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Double Glazing, Downstairs Bathroom, Laundry Room, En-Suite Shower Room to Master Bedroom, Driveway Parking, Front and rear gardens. A Value for Money Property.

**£550 PCM**



#### ROWLEY REGIS, KILN CROFT

Located in a peaceful cul-de-sac, is this modern end terrace home which is well worth an inspection, comprising of: Two Double Bedrooms, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with White Goods, House Bathroom with Shower, Electric Heating, Rear Garden and One allocated Parking Space. This Property Will Not Last Long, So Dont Miss Out

**£550 PCM**



#### TIVIDALE, LINDEN AVENUE

Three Bedroom Semi-Detached House. Extensively Refurbished with New Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing and comprises of: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Refitted Kitchen and Bathroom, Three Double Bedrooms. Available Immediately.

**£525 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, BEECHER ROAD

An unfurnished semi detached house, briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Lounge, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Downstairs Bathroom, Laundry Room, En-Suite Shower Room to Master Bedroom, Driveway Parking, Front and rear gardens. A Value for Money Property.

**£525 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, CAVALIER DRIVE

This beautifully presented and well looked after first floor apartment is centrally located to Halesowen, within easy reach of the town centre and local bus station, comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Large Lounge with Access to Your Own Balcony, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with Shower, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Allocated Parking Space for One Car. A Must See Property

**£525 PCM**



#### HALESOWEN, VICTORIA COURT

A Two Bedroomed Second Floor Flat Having Accommodation Including Hall, Generous Lounge With Balcony Off, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom With Jacuzzi, Double Glazing And Storage Heating, Communal Gardens.

**£495 PCM**



#### CRADLEY HEATH, MEADOW WALK

Being recently redecorated and on a quiet road, is this unfurnished semi detached house, comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Modern Downstairs Bathroom, Rear Garden, Driveway Parking.

**£475 PCM**



#### CRADLEY HEATH, PEAR TREE LANE

This lovely unfurnished modern first floor apartment, located in a popular area, and close to local train station and buses, comprises of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Parking Space

**£475 PCM**



#### CRADLEY HEATH, ELBOW STREET

An unfurnished ground floor apartment on a popular development, also close to Old Hill high street and local train station, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Allocated Parking Space (STRICTLY NO DSS)

**£425 PCM**



#### ROWLEY REGIS, HIGH STREET

A Furnished To Suit Two Bedroom Flat In High Street Location. Briefly Comprising of: Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Shower Room, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Parking Space.

**£425 PCM**



#### CRADLEY HEATH, HALESOWEN ROAD

This value for money part-furnished terraced house, close to Old Hill town centre and Old Hill train station, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms and One with Fitted Wardrobes, Gas Central Heating, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen with Appliances, Downstairs Bathroom with Shower, On Road Parking, NO REAR GARDEN

**£400 PCM**

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# Don't let a dry spell put the dampener on your garden dreams

Despite the recent rainfall, some water companies are still warning of droughts this summer. **Hannah Stephenson** looks at how we can save water before the warmer months start to kick in.



Most people use 145 litres of water every day, it's worth remembering that rain water is soft and chemical-free with less minerals and salts



Watering with sprinklers is most effective in the morning or late evening when evaporation rates are at their lowest

**MANY** gardeners may be looking outside now at the pouring rain, thinking 'Drought? What drought?' But whether we live in waterlogged areas in the North or in an official drought area in the South East, saving water is something we all need to think about because summer will be upon us before we know it.

We use 145 litres of water a day, yet we could harvest thousands of litres of rainwater from our household roof if we just took a little time to invest in a decent water butt and diverter or other container.

Guy Barter, RHS chief horticultural adviser, says: "There is a lot gardeners can do that does not involve extra watering."

"For example, spiking and feeding a lawn in spring will help it hold up in dry weather - then if it goes brown, it will recover even faster when rain returns."

"It's also a good idea to plant hardy plants early to avoid the hot weather and let them get their roots into the surrounding soil to search out moisture."

"When the warm weather arrives, keep any newly purchased plants in pots under light shade until the weather turns cooler."

"Of course, gardeners in north England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland at the moment don't normally suffer from bad droughts," he continues, "but by following our suggestions, they will not only be following good gardening practice but also will be preparing for the occasional very dry summers."

## Organic

Soil cultivation is of key importance when protecting plants in drought conditions. If we dig in large amounts of compost, well-rotted manure or other organic matter now, it will not only improve the soil structure but will also aid water retention.

The charity advises gardeners to plant plants when they are still small, so they can develop much greater resilience by adapting to their conditions from a young age.

Planting as early as possible in spring could also be beneficial because the sooner roots can start exploring the soil for water before dry weather arrives, the better.

Mulching after planting can help limit water loss from soil and promote a good root environment, which will help the retention of moisture while plants establish.

All new plants should be thoroughly watered and kept watered in the first season in dry periods, to ensure they establish well. Once established, they will become more drought tolerant.

In the last decade, more products which help retain water have become available, such as new and improved water

butts (check out [www.rsankey.co.uk](http://www.rsankey.co.uk) for decorative ideas), drip feeders and automatic irrigation kits, along with water-retaining gels and [www.carbongold.com](http://www.carbongold.com) for drought-busting biochar composts.

Companies associated with substantial water use in the garden are recognising the need to save water. Hozelock, for instance, is working closely with Waterwise, an independent organisation focused on reducing water consumption in the UK, to develop gardening products that will help gardeners reduce the amount of water they use. It offers the following tips:

- If you use a sprinkler, water early in the morning or late in the evening when evaporation rates are at their lowest.
- Consider using sprinklers with area control options which can reduce wastage by ensuring that water is only applied where it is needed.
- Use drip irrigation systems which can use up to 90 per cent less water than a standard hose and gun.
- Of course, it's also worth remembering that roof water is chemical-free and soft, containing less mineral salts and deposits than tap water, and so is ideal for crops and garden plants.

Planting drought-tolerant plants, reducing our lawn size (as the lawn can use an awful lot of water to keep it looking good in summer) using peat-free compost and planting container plants in large pots (the more compost used, the longer it takes to dry out), will all help.

## Tolerant

The RHS also stresses the importance of choosing the right plant for a particular garden soil. If a plant is growing in the soil most suited to its needs, it will be more tolerant of varying climatic conditions. Take all these precautions now and if hosepipe bans hit your area in the summer, you'll still be able to enjoy the sunshine.

Primula are the mainstay of the spring garden come in all shapes and sizes which prove perfect in pots, brighten up the front of borders and look stunning in rockeries.

One of my favourites is p. 'Miss indigo', a small but showy semi-evergreen perennial, flowering from late winter to late spring, producing clusters of double, indigo-purple flowers with creamy white tips. It loves dappled shade in damp, fertile humus-rich soil.

Another terrific specimen is p. denticulata, the drumstick primrose, a taller type with lollipop flowers in shades of white, blue and deep pink. It's easy to grow, thriving in full sun or partial shade, flowering from mid-spring through to summer. It looks good combined with other primulas or violets in light woodland conditions, or grouped in humus-rich soil in a cool part of a rock garden. Overgrown clumps should be lifted and divided after flowering.



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## Stourbridge Road, Halesowen



**£90,000**

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## Highfield Lane, Halesowen



A three bedroom semi detached property comprising kitchen, lounge, bathroom, driveway and gardens to front and rear. No upward chain.



**£140,000**

**NEW**

## Crendon Road, Rowley Regis



A three bedroom semi detached property comprising lounge, conservatory, kitchen, dining room, utility and bathroom.



**£150,000**

**NEW PRICE**

## Halesbury Court, Ombersley Road



**£110,000**

**NEW INSTRUCTION**

A two bedroom ground floor flat comprising kitchen, lounge, bathroom, parking and garage en-bloc.

## Bournes Hill, Halesowen



Offers Over £150,000

A three bedroom semi detached property comprising lounge/diner, conservatory, kitchen, shower room, driveway and rear garden.

## Gorsty Hill Road, Rowley Regis



A three bedroom semi detached property comprising two reception rooms, kitchen, bathroom and rear garden. No upward chain.

**£95,000**

**NEW PRICE**

## Beeches Road, Rowley Regis



A three bedroom mid terrace property comprising two reception rooms, kitchen and bathroom. No upward chain

**£85,000**

**NEW**

## Arkle Croft, Rowley Regis



**£200,000**

A detached property comprising lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen, four bedrooms, en-suite and bathroom.





# Local Tradesmen



## TIPS OF THE WEEK

In these days of rising energy bills you may consider renewable technologies to save you money but before you invest in any renewable technologies you should always make sure your home is thoroughly insulated in order to make the maximum savings. Take advice from a local builder and The Federation of Master Builders. When starting a building project always use a contract which should include details such as start and completion dates, costs and payment plan. You can download a free contract from the Federation of Master Builders (FMB), the largest trade association in the UK construction industry, <http://www.fmb.org.uk/find-a-builder/free-contracts/>.

Protect your investment in your home by getting building work covered by an insurance-backed warranty, such as those offered by Build Assure. Build Assure offer a wide range of insurance products to suit your individual requirements and building project. Visit [www.fmbuildassure.co.uk](http://www.fmbuildassure.co.uk) to find out more.

The Federation of Master Builders (FMB), the largest trade association in the UK construction industry, <http://www.fmb.org.uk/fab/>.



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# Local Tradesmen



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## GARDENING



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\*Plus Much More Call Now For a No Obligation Quotation  
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See if we can beat your current grass cutting prices  
**50% off first cuts**

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From total makeovers and clearances to decking and fencing  
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unbeatable prices & quality

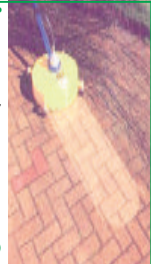
### GREEN GIANT Outdoor Services

Fencing, Landscaping, Grounds, Clearance, Strimming, Lawn Mowing, Pressure Cleaning of Drives and Patios

No job too small, ask for a free quote.

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For all types of fencing  
Supplied and fitted

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Manufacturers of all Concrete Products  
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Family Run Business  
Over 20years experience  
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# Local Tradesmen



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Grass Cutting and Garden Maintenance

All Areas Covered  
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Quality Stairparts  
supplied & fitted  
by mature  
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• Carpentry • Plumbing • Tiling  
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quote call Wayne on  
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**Garage Door Repair Service**

◆ Keen Prices  
◆ 15 years Experience  
◆ All Work Guaranteed

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**Quality Paving Service**

**NOW**  
Approved  
Marshalls  
Registered  
Installer

• Driveways or Patios  
• Block Paving • Slabbing  
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Mob: 07860 493834  
Covering the West Midlands

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Garage Doors & Wrought Iron

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Gardor Beaumont/Cathedral Canopy up and over door with maintenance free still frame, 4 point locking, finished in white, 10 year guarantee

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**FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTE**

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**MOT**  
**£27.99**  
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**FREE RE-TEST**  
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Restore your driveway and patio and enhance the appearance of your property

- ▶ Block paving cleaned and re-sanded
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- ▶ No chemicals used
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# Local Tradesmen



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- Central Heating • Gas Fitting
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Central Heating/Boilers, Fires and Cookers  
Installation and Repair, all Plumbing Work,  
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Central Heating/Boilers  
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ALL TYPES OF DOORS SUPPLIED AND FITTED  
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**Central Heating Professionally Installed Serviced and Repaired**  
From £1,750  
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**SPECIALISTS IN TILE, SLATE,**  
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- SPECIAL OFFERS**  
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Slating, Tiling, New Roofs, Flat Roofs, Chimneys, Guttering, Ridges, Flashings, uPVC Fascia Cladding  
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Specialists in Re-upholstery, Repairs and Antiques  
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Choice of patterns  
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## Lost & Found



### LOST FRENCH BULLDOG

Distinctive markings on chin and belly.  
Lost on March 18, in Park Village at 2.30pm.  
Reward if returned.  
Please contact: 07916 807697.

### LOST GOLD COLOURED TARA BROOCH

Red stones, between 12-1pm, March 19, walking from Our Lady & St. Chad's School into Croft Lane, across Cannock Road, into Carlton Avenue.  
Reward 07796 298271.

LOST - Black and white cat, missing since March 18, from John Corbett Drive, Stourbridge  
Contact 01384 624768.

LOST - Gents spectacles, dark tortoiseshell frames, lost in Snow Hill, Wolverhampton on March 10. Call 07972 146368.

LOST - White female cat, 7yrs old, with tuft of fur on nose, microchipped, March 6. Castlecroft Area. 07763 214481.

## personal

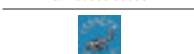
ADULT CINEMA & SEX SHOP  
DVD exchanges, magazines bought for cash. The Fox Lady, Oxford St, Bilston, 01902 490898.

GIVE CUPID'S ARROW A CHANCE and meet some lovely like minded singles at our fun dating events. Wolverhampton Thurs April 5, ages 30-50 - 45-60. Call 07576 457372 or www.when-themusictops.com



SEDGLEY SCORPIONS FC. Girls football coaching sessions are being held from 31 March for next seasons new U11's Team, current school year 5.

Other age groups can also be accommodated in girls or mixed teams.  
Contact Gary 07947 621880 or Karl 07833 936854



SEDGLEY SCORPIONS FC. Players required now for our U7's team, current school year 2 and our U10's team, current school year 5, for next seasons 11 a side football.

Other age groups are also accommodated, please enquire. We are a fair and friendly Charter Standard club, with CRB checked FA Level 1 Coaches.  
Contact Gary 07947 621880 or Karl 07833 936854

## HELP!

### BIRMINGHAM FLIGHT TCX4122

March 15, the 10.20am flight from Birmingham, seats 6 D, E and F, I was in 6F and Tinatus in left ear, get in touch to help, I lost something.  
Box Number P17701, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

### IS THERE A NICE LOOKING TALLISH MAN OUT THERE?

With good qualities but fun to be with, 50 plus, NS, who would like to meet a lady with varied interests and fun to be with, own house and car, GSOH, enjoys cinema, theatre and short breaks.

Please send a photo (returned).  
Life is too short to be on your own!

Box Number P17693, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

### LADY YOUNG AT HEART

Would like to meet gentleman for friendship possibly more, aged 35 - 60, non smoker and car driver preferred.

Box Number P17700, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

MY MOTHER EVELYN LOUISE (LOUIE)

Lived in Eagle Street with her Dad, George Robert and her Sisters Doris, whose Children were Ann and George, Sylvia, whose Children were Sue and Robert and Edith.

I am trying to trace anyone who can help with the Family tree, if so please reply to

Box Number P17688, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

SEDGLEY SCORPIONS FC. Academy coaching sessions are being held from 31 March for Reception and Year 1 children to form new teams.

We are a fair and friendly Charter Standard Club, with CRB checked FA Level 1 Coaches.  
Contact Gary 07947 621880 or Karl 07833 936854



SEDGLEY SCORPIONS FC. Academy coaching sessions are being held from 31 March for Reception and Year 1 children to form new teams.

We are a fair and friendly Charter Standard Club, with CRB checked FA Level 1 Coaches.  
Contact Gary 07947 621880 or Karl 07833 936854



SEDGLEY WHITE LIONS WEST. Boys U13's are looking to recruit a quality Striker and other outfield positions to strengthen existing squad for Summer Tournaments and next season.

Playing in Division 1 of the Stourbridge League. Must be enthusiastic and committed.  
If interested contact Steve on 01384 620598.

## TIPTON TOWN FC

Are looking to grow the youth section for 2012/2013 season in the Midland Junior South League which is played on Saturday Morning. We have currently under 15's/16's teams for next season and are looking for under 12's/13's who would like a new challenge of joining a very high standard league, for the development of young players and has set up league representative games against the likes of Reading, Birmingham City and Arsenal this season.

Interested?  
Contact Phil on 07957 341263.



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ALL WORK GUARANTEED  
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## furniture

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3 PIECE SUITE elegant classical brocade 3 piece suite, neutral background, pale green/pink tapestry design. Very good condition. Bargain £199. 01902 896525.

## kitchens & bathrooms

JASON HYDE PLUMBING & HEATING  
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## Dining Suite

### FURNITURE

Six chair dining suite, sideboard, Hi-Fi unit, nest of tables, single divan, 2 door wardrobe, 2 bedside cabinets, 2 childrens computer desks, good condition.  
£300 ono.  
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0800 587 0377 / 07749 941319.

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## items for sale

ADVERTISE SIX NIGHTS per week from as little as £10.44 per night plus vat, with Trade Contract Advertising. Published Full circulation Express and Star, two Chronicles and Internet. Interested? Telephone Cynthia Jones on 01902 316607.

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Horsley Steels 01547 530419

KINDER OASIS coal effect gas fire, good condition, £120. o.n.o. 01562 851464.

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ALL GOLD 9ct £300 per ounce CASH PAID TODAY  
A GENUINE LADY BUYER  
All Jewellery • Duvetons • Worcester Worcester  
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WANTED  
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Hornby, Bachman, Wrenn and Graham/Parish.  
Any make, also live steam. Guaranteed top cash prices paid!!  
0121 602 2569 or 07891 713547

WANTED Royal Albert Old Country Roses Dinner / Tea / Coffee Service. Previous offers please call again: 07729 660894.

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## JAPANESE MADE IBANEZ JEM GUITAR 1989.

Steve Vai Model, black and green with case, excellent condition.  
£2,000 ono.  
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A MAN WITH A VAN single/full loads, local/nationwide. Tel Steve 0121 422 2996/07815 043724.

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2005, 1914 twin axle, excellent condition, air conditioning, non smokers, non pets, large end bathroom, must be seen, £7,500.  
01952 608304 or 07790 942277.

COMANCHE TRAILER Tent, has given us great service, new electrics fitted, ready to go. £245. 0121 559 2350 / 07531 406001.

COMPASS CARAVAN, 1994, 4/5 berth. Good condition. NR awning included. ALKO stabiliser, new carpets, £3,500 ono. 01902 766326.

DETHLEFS 2006 quality German Caravan, English spec, four berth, fixed bed, motor-mover, £6,500 ono. 01902 893065.

ELDDIS AVANTE 636 2007/8, 6 berth, twin axle, motor mover, full awning, FSH, excellent condition. £10,250 ono. 01746 764950.

ELDDIS WHISP 18ft, 5 berth, 96, fridge, oven, hot and cold, Carver heater, shower, Thetford toilet, full awning, spare wheel, gas bottle, £2,250 ono. 07971 626169.

ELDDIS EXCEL 5 berth, 17ft, 1993, hot/cold water, cassette toilet and shower, full cassette, 3 way fridge. Very good condition. Many extras. £1,750 ono. 0121 555 8108.

FLEETWOOD COLCHESTER 500EB, 2000, 4-berth, excellent condition, genuine reason for sale, £3,600. o.n.o. 01902 791367.

FLEETWOOD GARLAND 1996 14ft 2 berth, hob/g grill and oven 3 way fridge h/c water shower cassette w/c fly screens/blinds, new full awning with too many extras to list very good condition, lightweight £1,600 ono

07986 600736

HARDLY USED CARAVAN ACCESSORIES  
Isabella Capri luxury awning, 864, £250.  
Breathable ground sheet, 2.5 x 6m, £30.  
Aqua caddy, 50 litr, £20.  
Adaptor, £15.  
Waste caddy, 45 litr, £20.  
Mains extension lead, 25m, £25.  
01543 278145.

STATIC CARAVAN  
Pemberton Sovereign  
35ft x 12ft, good condition throughout, sleeps 4.  
£3,000 ono.  
Call Harry for further details on 07515 967097.

STERLING EUROPA 1999 17ft, 2 berth, full oven, h/c water, shower toilet, awning, good condition. £1,800. 07768 133162.

SWIFT 2-BERTH CARAVAN  
Good condition. Lightweight, easy to pull with car. Full awning and porch awning, plus extras. Price Good starter caravan. £950. o.n.o. 0121 4226559 or 07788 734671.

SWIFT CORVETTE 4 berth, sloping front, h/c and cold water, cassette toilet, shower, good condition, with awning. New tyres. Ready to use. £975. After 6pm 01902 337990 or 07576 088197.

caravans wanted

TOURING CARAVAN or similar wanted, up to £300. Anything considered. 07980 365757.

caravans / motorhomes

ABI AWARD PRESTIGE 18ft., 4 berth, 99, and bathroom, L shaped lounge, many extras, plus awning. £2,995. 07876 730836.

AVON PEMBERTON STATIC CARAVAN  
MANUFACTURED 2009  
Gas CH, DG, full size gas cooker, microwave, diner kitchen, sleeps 6.  
35ft x 12ft, two bedrooms (one en-suite) plus bathroom, as new.  
Sited quiet corner plot Oxon Pool Holiday home Park (ten months site), Shrewsbury.  
£18,999 ono.  
Telephone 07585 770832.

BAILEY RANGER 2000, 510 4 berth, exceptional condition throughout, £2,950. 01384 379430 or 07721 098811.

BAILEY RANGER 460/4 2008, fixed double bed, new job for sale, many extras, immaculate, £3,500. 01952 412454.

A BEAUTIFUL PARK nr Ludlow, 35ft x 12ft Caravan for £10,000. Why go further? 01584 823433

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**SWIFT MODERN STYLE**  
**TOURER CARAVAN**  
1992, 2-berth, end kitchen,  
full cooker, fridge-freezer.  
Ready to go for Easter.  
£600, o.n.o.  
Telephone 01384 561921.

**TOURING CARAVAN** 4 berth,  
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floor, bargain £450 one, Wolver-  
hampton 07719 30101.

## guns & dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**  
Advertisers must ensure that  
they meet all necessary legal  
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using guns.

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**HORSE MANURE**, 10 bags - £12.  
20 bags - £20.  
Free delivery.  
Telephone 07522 997130.

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Please be aware that when purchas-  
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some simple guidelines you  
can follow to ensure that you  
are not purchasing from a  
Puppy Farmer.

1. Try to ensure you visit the  
puppy whilst it is still with it's  
Mother.

2. Do not arrange to collect a  
puppy from any other location  
than that of the breeder.

3. Ensure that you are given  
any KC documentation, if  
pedigree.

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Association publications take  
great care to avoid publication  
of advertisements from Puppy  
Farmers we cannot accept any  
liability should readers pur-  
chase from this  
kind of establishment.

**ANIMAL SANCTUARY**  
needs a home for Jenny, a  
young black and white Cat,  
whose owner has died, can you  
make Jenny happy again?  
0121 5025027.

**BABY RABBITS**, around 6 months  
old, white with grey spots. Free to  
go to good homes.  
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Puppy, 9 weeks old, parents can  
seen, £200 07890 298338.

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ready April 14, 4 girls £425 each  
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A rescue border Collie,  
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there are many more dogs at  
Rosendene Rescue at Walsall.  
Dog walkers needed Monday  
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one dog, three bitches, tails  
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**FOREST DOG RESCUE**  
Rehoming - Rafe - Akita, 3yrs,  
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Buster - red Staffie, 1yr, male.  
Zia - Staffie, 1yr, female. Bammi  
- X Bred, 1yr, female. Pippin -  
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young Lurcher, male. Casper -  
GSD X, young male.

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**GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES**  
Good temperaments. Only  
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**KITTENS** x seven for sale,  
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**LABRATORS**, Black pups. Ready  
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**POND** plus pumps, filters fountain  
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adorable little darlings.  
£225 each. 07867 53004.

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homes only. 07901 945419.

**WEST HIGHLAND TERRIERS**  
Bitches and dogs. Nine weeks.  
£350. 07759 737894.

**WEST HIGHLAND TERRIERS**  
Pups X 2 boys, pedigree with papers. £250.  
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## what's on

## markets

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Centre Market**  
**THIS SATURDAY**  
By the rainbow shopping centre  
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**ELECTRICALLY OPERATED**  
front passenger swivel seat, com-  
plete with arm rests, perfect con-  
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Open Now, specialising in clutches,  
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## cars over £1500

**AUDI TT 225**  
60,000 miles, 2002, red.

Excellent condition, one lady  
driver from new. FSH, 11  
months Tax and MoT, 4 new  
tyres and cambelt, leather  
seats (MoT heat), alloy  
wheels (unmarked).  
£5,250.  
01902 765479.

**CITROEN C1 VTR**, 1.6, 2006, MoT  
and tax, 33,300 miles, good con-  
dition, fsh, £3,100 ono.  
07949 084703.

**CITROEN C5 1.6 HDI**  
Design, (06), silver, 58k, full  
MoT, tax end May, auto  
lights/wipers, EW/CLAC etc,  
cat 1 approved alarm/immobil-  
iser, Parrot phone kit.  
Excellent condition, £3,495.  
07976 869485 or 01902 401139.

**FIAT PUNTO**, 04, 63k, red, tax,  
MoT, recent cambelt, fsh, car,  
economy, CD, car, car, car,  
£1,750 ono. 07722 524261.

**FORD FIESTA 1.4 Zetec**, 52 reg,  
new shape, 30k miles, alloys, EW,  
long MoT, tax, bargain, £1,080  
o.n.o. 07815 517677.

**FORD FIESTA STYLE**  
55 Reg, blue, 1242cc, petrol,  
Zetec, 2dr, 55,000 miles, 10  
months MoT, tax, excellent  
condition.  
Any trial £2,795.  
01902 651292 / 07803 604469.

**FORD PUMA 1.7** 02, 65,000 miles,  
silver, abs, EW, fsh, alloy, CD,  
alloys, CD, petrol, MoT July, 2  
doors, immaculate, £1,995  
ono. 07894 560535.

**HONDA CIVIC TYPE S**  
**ICDT DIESEL**  
Economic, low tax, 08, one  
former owner, 29,000 miles,  
red, sat nav, CD, glass  
panoramic roof, immaculate,  
£8,295 ono.  
01384 291177 or 07971 988303.

**HYUNDAI ACCENT CDX** hatch-  
back, 1.3 petrol, MoT, 6  
months tax, service history,  
£2,150 ono. 07757 769588.

**HYUNDAI GETZ CDX**  
2003, 03 Reg, 5dr, only 39,000  
miles, metallic silver, MoT Feb-  
ruary 2013, drives like new.  
£2,895.  
Cheaper part ex considered.  
01902 661115 -  
07946 587290.

**JAGUAR X TYPE V6 SE**  
Saloon 2099cc - Automatic  
Petrol, first registered  
28.03.2002, only 51k miles.  
Champagne metallic, beige  
leather interior.  
Very good condition.  
£3,000.  
Telephone 01952 591484.

**KIA SORENTO CE**  
56 reg, MoT, service history,  
17,000 miles, red, excellent  
condition,  
£7,850.  
01952 255111.

**KIA SORENTO 2.5 XE DIESEL**,  
4x4, 59 plate. Under 10,000  
miles, FSH, as new condition.  
£14,500. 07583 421823.

**LANDROVER**  
**FREELANDER TD4 SE**  
2005, 108,000 miles, silver with  
black windows, heated seats,  
heated front screen,  
12 months MoT, many extras.  
Must be seen.  
£5,900 ono. 07849 420618.

**MAXDA RX8 (231) COUPE**  
First registered December  
2007, (57 plate).  
11,500 miles only.  
All the stage, silver with  
Galaxy grey with stone leather  
heated electric seats  
and parking sensors.  
Factory fitted sports pack.  
Full Mazda service history.  
Super guarded paintwork and  
interior.  
MoT till Dec 2012.  
£7,575.  
Telephone 01932 605606.

**MAZDA RX8**, 2008, (57), 28k,  
blue, e/w, a/c, fsh, sunroof,  
alloys, leather interior, £5,000  
ono. 07748 402113.

**MERCEDES A140 Classic**, 02,  
silver, long MoT, excellent, 5 door,  
hatch, low miles, new tyres, fsh.  
Ideal town car. First to offer,  
ready to go, £2,195. 01902 710534.

**MERCEDES BENZ SLK**  
**230 CONVERTIBLE**  
2003, 64,000 miles, auto,  
metallic black, cruise, CD,  
black leather heated electric  
seats, Mercedes fsh, tax, full  
MoT, bought from Mercedes,  
excellent condition.  
£7,000.  
Telephone 07779 197769.

**MERCEDES E 200 CLASSIC**  
51 reg, silver, Manual, only  
94,000 miles, only 1 previous  
owner FSH, tax and MoT full  
Mere spec. Excellent  
condition inside and out.  
£1,695.  
01902 673406 or 07799 203285.

**MG TF**  
03, 1.8, 77,000 miles, 12 months  
MoT, 6 months tax, CD with  
AUX input, leather/suede like-  
rior.  
Recent service and new rear tyres.  
£1,950 ono.  
01939 261630.

**MINI COOPER D**  
Chilli, red/white, April 2008,  
33,000 miles, FSH, 12 months  
MoT, NS, advanced lady driver,  
cheap tax, showroom  
condition, very reluctant sale.  
£8,999.  
01902 741100.

**MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER**  
**SPORT 4WD**  
LPG, auto, leather, detachable  
towbar, 18ins alloys, new  
cambelt, battery, tax, MoT,  
very good condition.  
£4,750 ono.  
Telephone 07976 260044.

**NISSAN MICRA AUTO 03** reg, 5dr,  
low miles, excellent condition  
and water, £1,500 ono.  
01902 959697 / 07906 482613.

**NISSAN MICRA Silver**, 5-dr, 2005,  
34,000 miles, tax and MoT good  
condition, 07708 699931 /  
0121 602174.

**NISSAN PRIMERA**, 2007, silver,  
5-dr No Tax, 12mths MoT, 28,000  
miles, excellent condition, EW,  
£4,000 o.n.o. 01902 306717.

**PEUGEOT 107**, 06 reg, 51,500  
miles, fsh, blue, abs, electric  
windows, 12 months MoT, CD, very  
good condition, £2,999.  
01384 892725.

**PEUGEOT 307 1.4**, 2003, silver, 5dr,  
53k, full MoT, 6 months tax, EW,  
RCL, EM, alloys, good condition,  
£2,400 o.n.o. 07432 677356.

**PEUGEOT 406 GLX**  
2001, 55,000 miles, silver, elec-  
tric windows, air bag, electric  
mirrors, air con, fsh, long MoT,  
metallic paint, central locking,  
pas, stereo, CD, petrol.  
£1,550 ono.  
07720 274844.

**PEUGEOT 607 EXCLUSIVE**  
**2.2 DIESEL**  
08 reg, Top of the Range,  
absolutely everything on it.  
Black leather interior, sat-nav,  
95,000 motorway miles.  
Taxed and MoT'd.  
£5,500.  
Telephone 07774 963061.

**PORSCHE BOXTER 2.7**  
06 reg, metallic black, Bose  
audio upgrade, multi and  
single CD player, Sat Nav,  
phone prep, black leather elec-  
tric seats, tax, MoT, service  
history, last service was a  
major including belt change.  
Boxter S 18ins alloys, external  
side pod colour  
pack, 601,000 miles.  
£13,750 ono.  
Telephone 01902 759361  
or 07904 724712.

**RENAULT MEGANE Dynamique**  
3-dr, 57 reg, service history,  
excellent condition, £3,800 o.n.o.  
07817 65491 01902 963986.

**SEAT IBIZA**  
black, 2008 57 plate,  
£4,300 ono.  
07411 045316.

**SEAT IBIZA 1.4**  
Petrol, 5dr, 52 reg, silver, alloys,  
climate, front fog lights, 6  
months MoT, 4 new  
tyres, excellent condition.  
£1,750.  
0121 522 3150 / 07513 369167.

**SMART FORTWO COUPE**, 2007,  
excellent condition, tax to May,  
MoT to January, panoramic glass  
roof, fsh, £4,300. 07512 347004.

**TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO**  
**TSPIRIT VVTi**  
03, silver, automatic, 66,000  
miles, twin sunroofs, air con,  
12 months MoT, 6 months tax.  
£2,900.  
01902 755926.

**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4SE** petrol,  
auto, Sep 2010, only 6,000 miles,  
silver, 5dr, alloys etc, 4 months  
tax, £8,000 ono. 07815 483637.

**VAUXHALL CORSA Club** 12, 58  
plate, air con, EW, fsh, immacu-  
late condition, £4,995.  
01902 331155.

**VAUXHALL CORSA SXI**  
56 reg, 35,220 miles, silver, tax,  
Auto, alloys, slight dent on rear  
bumper. CD, bargain  
quick sale needed.  
£3,950 ono.  
07903 071735

**VAUXHALL VECTRA** Design 1.8,  
06reg, pannacotta/silver, full MoT,  
new, shape Zetec/mot, 9 reg,  
Reduced £3,500. 01384 292184

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Reduced £3,500. 01384 292184

## LOW MILEAGE

**MAXDA RX8 (231) COUPE**  
First registered December  
2007, (57 plate).  
11,500 miles only.  
All the stage, silver with  
Galaxy grey with stone leather  
heated electric seats  
and parking sensors.  
Factory fitted sports pack.  
Full Mazda service history.  
Super guarded paintwork and  
interior.  
MoT till Dec 2012.  
£7,575.  
Telephone 01932 605606.

**MAZDA RX8**, 2008, (57), 28k,  
blue, e/w, a/c, fsh, sunroof,  
alloys, leather interior, £5,000  
ono. 07748 402113.

**MERCEDES A140 Classic**, 02,  
silver, long MoT, excellent, 5 door,  
hatch, low miles, new tyres, fsh.  
Ideal town car. First to offer,  
ready to go, £2,195. 01902 710534.

**MERCEDES BENZ SLK**  
**230 CONVERTIBLE**  
2003, 64,000 miles, auto,  
metallic black, cruise, CD,  
black leather heated electric  
seats, Mercedes fsh, tax, full  
MoT, bought from Mercedes,  
excellent condition.  
£7,000.  
Telephone 07779 197769.

**MERCEDES E 200 CLASSIC**  
51 reg, silver, Manual, only  
94,000 miles, only 1 previous  
owner FSH, tax and MoT full  
Mere spec. Excellent  
condition inside and out.  
£1,695.  
01902 673406 or 07799 203285.

**MG TF**  
03, 1.8, 77,000 miles, 12 months  
MoT, 6 months tax, CD with  
AUX input, leather/suede like-  
rior.  
Recent service and new rear tyres.  
£1,950 ono.  
01939 261630.

**MINI COOPER D**  
Chilli, red/white, April 2008,  
33,000 miles, FSH, 12 months  
MoT, NS, advanced lady driver,  
cheap tax, showroom  
condition, very reluctant sale.  
£8,999.  
01902 741100.

**MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER**  
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LPG, auto, leather, detachable  
towbar, 18ins alloys, new  
cambelt, battery, tax, MoT,  
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£4,750 ono.  
Telephone 07976 260044.

**NISSAN MICRA AUTO 03** reg, 5dr,  
low miles, excellent condition  
and water, £1,500 ono.  
01902 959697 / 07906 482613.

**NISSAN MICRA Silver**, 5-dr, 2005,  
34,000 miles, tax and MoT good  
condition, 07708 699931 /  
0121 602174.

**NISSAN PRIMERA**, 2007, silver,  
5-dr No Tax, 12mths MoT, 28,000  
miles, excellent condition, EW,  
£4,000 o.n.o. 01902 306717.

**PEUGEOT 107**, 06 reg, 51,500  
miles, fsh, blue, abs, electric



# classified

**WALL HEALTH** Albion Parade.  
Two bed maisonette flat.  
£450pcm. T5R 01902 42121.

**WE BUY, SELL, LET & REFUR-**  
**BISH** all Properties. Fast and  
Friendly Service: 07863 299115.

**WEST BROMWICH**, modern self  
contained bedsit, near town  
centre, no up/down stairs, DSS  
35+ ok. 07773 256542

**WHITMORE REANS**, W'ton. 2 & 3  
Bed houses, CH, DG, DSS Ok, low  
deposits. 07773 256589

**WILLENHALL**, Shepherd Drive.  
Two bedroom semi detached  
house. Unfurnished. Double  
garage. Gas Heating. Garden.  
£450pcm. Thomas Skidmore  
01902 421491

**WTON EAST PARK** 3 bed house,  
full CH/DG, good location,  
£515pcm. 07773 192902.

## houses for sale



**BILSTON**

Detached four double bed-  
rooms, one en-suite, luxury  
bathroom, three reception  
rooms. Large kitchen. Off road  
parking to rear. Large  
garden. Recently renovated.

£205,000.

Telephone 07732 757101



**BILSTON**

Three bedroom semi detached,  
large lounge, kitchen and  
diner, internal garage and off  
road parking, large rear  
enclosed garden. Town Centre  
and Primary

School nearby.

£130,000 ono.

07976 752519.

## properties wanted

**FAST CASH FOR YOUR PROPERTY**  
A REAL ALTERNATIVE TO AUCTIONS AND ESTATE AGENTS!  
Instant Decision - Fast Completion

- ✓ Repossessions Stopped
- ✓ Mortgage / Loans Cleared
- ✓ Probate & Deceased Estates Welcome
- ✓ Houses bought in ANY condition
- ✓ No HPI's - No Fees!

Call **FREE** today on  
**0800 121 6007**

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**www.oakwood-homebuyers.com**

**WE BUY ANY HOUSE**

- Clear your debt!
- We buy ANY condition
- NO COST TO YOU!
- Free CONFIDENTIAL advice
- Repossession stopped
- Deceased estates

Company run by women  
CALL **FREE** **0800 7567577**  
**www.buyanyhouse.info**

**WE BUY ANY HOUSE**

- Clear your debt!
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Company run by women  
CALL **FREE** **0800 7567577**  
**www.buyanyhouse.info**

Need To Sell Your House Fast?  
Guaranteed Quick Offer  
Up to 100% of market value!  
Call Sue on 0121 255 0317.

## mobile homes

**MOBILE HOME FOR SALE** in  
Coven. 2 bed, single unit. Resi-  
dents must be over 50, £37,000.  
Telephone 01902 781259.

## Sell it...

**classified**  
01902 317878



**DETACHED TWO BED BUN-**  
**GALOW**

Tywyn, Gwynedd.  
Quiet cul-de-sac.  
Garage. Private Parking. DG.  
Fitted Kitchen. GCH.  
Big Conservatory.  
Immaculate gardens.  
Includes all new carpets.  
£169,500.  
01654 711471.



**HALESOWEN**

Spacious mid-terrace property  
with 2 large reception rooms, 3  
bedrooms and land-  
scaped garden.

£129,950

07816 783346

**PAIGNTON, SOUTH DEVON**  
Purpose built two bed first  
floor self contained flat, CH,  
DG, near town centre,  
£75,000.  
07703 537561.

**WOMBOURNE VILLAGE**  
Impressive 4-bed executive  
detached house.  
Greenhill area.  
(Not on open market).  
Master bedroom / en-suite.  
New bathroom, kitchen and  
laundry.

Ground floor cloaks.  
Hobbies room. Office. GCH.  
UPVC doors and windows.  
Large garden / caravan  
storage.

£345,000 offers.

(Trade in considered).

07970 837127.

## properties wanted

**debt problems?**  
sell your house - guaranteed rental  
we buy any house - any condition!

guaranteed offer - no fees  
repossessions stopped  
deceased estates  
free solicitors - no fees!

TEXT BUY TO 889032

**0800 032 1718**  
nationalhomeownershelpline.co.uk

**BLACK COUNTRY HOMES**  
We are a family run local business. A fair offer from  
people you can trust. No fees - Call Sam on 01902 628047

**pink ladies** Free confidential service - No Fees!  
Any property - Any condition - Any area!  
Stop repossessions - Deceased estates

A PROPERTY COMPANY  
RUN BY WOMEN  
THAT YOU CAN TRUST

Call Free **0800 169 1118** (24 hrs)

**debt rescue**  
0800-783-2822

In a mess? talk in confidence,  
we can help, call now  
Lines open 24-hours

**REPOSSESSIONS STOPPED**  
FREE PHONE **0800 085 6626**

Save Your Home!  
• Free solicitors no fees  
• We will come to sort with you!  
• No court fees

## public & legal notices

**SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF SANDWELL**  
(MOOR LANE AND YEW TREE LANE,  
ROWLEY REGIS)  
(WIDTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL WEIGHT  
LIMIT RESTRICTION)

ORDER 2012

The Borough Council of Sandwell in exercise of its powers under Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers and after consulting with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984 proposes to make an Order which will have the following effect:-

- To prohibit any vehicle exceeding a width of 2 m or 6' 6" and any vehicle exceeding a maximum gross weight of 7.5t on the sections of roads specified in Schedule 1 to this notice.
- To revoke the Sandwell Borough Council Moor Lane & Yew Tree Lane, Rowley Regis (Width Restriction) Order 1993.
- The provision of the order shall not apply to:-
  - to a vehicle which is being used to gain access to the premises situated on or adjacent to those roads specified in the schedule including any service road which is not accessible from any other length of road;
  - to a vehicle which is being used by the Police, Fire Brigade or Ambulance Service in pursuance of their statutory powers and duties;
  - to a vehicle being used for the purposes of:-
    - any building operation or excavation;
    - the removal of obstruction to traffic;
    - the maintenance, improvement or reconstruction of a road;
    - the laying, erection, alteration, repair or cleaning on or near the road of any sewer, or of any main, pipe or apparatus for the supply of gas, water, electricity or any telecommunication equipment lawfully kept in any position;
  - a vehicle which is being used by a Local Authority or Statutory Undertaker in pursuance of their statutory powers of duties.

A copy of the draft Order, the Order to be revoked, a statement of reasons for making the Order and maps showing the roads affected may be examined at the offices of the Area Director Street Scene, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE between the hours of 8.00 am - 5.30 pm on Mondays to Thursdays and 8.00 am - 5.00 pm on Fridays. Plans are also available to view on the Council's website.

Any person wishing to make an objection or representation to the proposed Order must do so in writing stating the grounds of their objections to Mr Irfan Choudry, Service Manager - Highways or by e-mail to highways@sandwell.gov.uk by no later than 27th April 2012.

### SCHEDULE 1

Road Name	Length of restriction
Moor Lane	From its junction with Highams Close to its junction with Ross / Siviters Lane
Yew Tree Lane	From its junction with Admirals Way to its junction with Moor Lane

Dated this 29th day of March 2012  
S Handley  
Area Director Street Scene  
Sandwell Council House  
Freeth Street  
Oldbury  
West Midlands  
B69 3DE



Gridlock - stay alert to dangers and traffic congestion up ahead when using the motorway system

# Staying safe on our motorway network

**MOTORWAYS** are busy places. They carry one fifth of all our traffic but are less than one per cent of the total length of all the UK's roads. They are also our safest roads, and following these tips will keep you safer still.

Always think about what's around you. Check your mirrors regularly, as well as before you make a manoeuvre. On busy motorways, you need to create as much room around your car as possible, and always plan a way out of any difficulty.

For example, if somebody pulls sharply into the lane in front of you, would you have room behind you to brake harshly, or could you move into the outside lane? If you have too little space, increase the gap between yourself and the car in front. Actively reminding yourself to check your



By Caroline Holmes

**IAM**  
DRIVING ROAD SAFETY

[www.iam.org.uk](http://www.iam.org.uk)

mirrors every so often also helps you keep focussed on your driving.

A hazard is anything that forces you to think about changing your speed or direction. When you decide to change lane, similarly you create a hazard to the other drivers around you.

Signal your intentions early, especially if you have somebody following close behind. When you change lane on the motorway other drivers will often give you room to pull out - but never force your way out, even when traffic is busy.

Always keep at least a two second gap between yourself and the vehicle in front. I recommend doubling this to compensate for all of the other drivers who aren't sticking to the rule.

However careful you are, it is easy to unintentionally reduce your following distance when you change lanes, so if you pull out and are too close, gradually back off the car in front until you are back to your two seconds. When changing lanes you also need to look out for other drivers that might be aiming to pull into the same space as you from another lane, or from behind you.

In heavy traffic you can keep moving for longer by keeping an eye on the vehicle three or four up the queue, as opposed to just the one in front. This saves fuel and frustration. If brake lights go on up ahead, you know the traffic will come to a halt, so back off until the traffic moves on again.

When overtaking, move out, pass the vehicle(s), and move back in as soon as it's safe. If other people want to go faster you will only cause frustration by sticking in the outside lane.

**Cradley Heath Motor Company Ltd.**  
**www.cradleyheathmotorco.co.uk**  
NOW OPEN ON SUNDAY, 10AM-4PM

**OUR SELECTION**

	OUR PRICE
FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI ZETEC 06 Reg, 5-dr, Ice Blue, AC, Alloys, 48k, FSH	<b>SOLD</b>
RENAULT MEGANE 1.9 DCI DYNAMIQUE 54 Reg, 5-dr, Grey, AC, Alloys, 45k, FSH	£3995
PEUGEOT 207 1.4 SPORT 07 (56) Reg, Red, AC, Alloys, 47k, FSH	£4495
PEUGEOT 207 1.4 S 07 Reg, 3-dr, Grey Metallic, AC, 43k, FSH, 1 Owner	£4695
PEUGEOT Clio 1.4 DYNAMIQUE 07 56 Reg, 5-dr, Red, Glass Roof, AC, Alloys, 43k, FSH	<b>SOLD</b>
PEUGEOT 307 1.6 HDi 06 Reg, 5-dr, Silver, AC, Alloys, 57k, FSH	£4795
VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.3 CDTI CLUB 06 Reg, 5-dr, Silver, AC, Alloys, 54k, FSH	<b>SOLD</b>
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Van-tastic – the 2012 Citroën Berlingo comes with a choice of one petrol and four diesel powertrains

# Berlingo leads the way in high cube van field

**IN THE high cube F1 van segment (up to 2,500kg gvw), Citroën's Berlingo has beaten its rivals to gain top spot for the first two months of 2012.**

During January and February, Citroën sold 1,345 Berlingos to take the leading position – and an amazing 24.1 per cent share – of this very competitive sector.

Scott Michael, Citroën's Commercial Vehicle Operations Manager, commented: "When the economy is facing a tough time and money is tight, its quality and low running costs that tempt buyers to invest in new vans. The Berlingo provides all the quality, low whole life costs and versatility the

market demands, as its sector leadership shows in the opening months of 2012. Euro 5 Berlingo sales for January and February 2012 were 9.6 per cent ahead of the second place manufacturer, 11 per cent ahead of the third place contender and more than 20 per cent ahead of the fourth and fifth place manufacturers combined."

"The Berlingo's market appeal will only get stronger when the latest updated models go on sale next month. The 2012 model Berlingo is even more economical and has even lower emissions, something which will really give buyers something extra to think about when choosing their vans in this highly competitive sector," Michael added.

The 2012 Berlingo range, which

makes its CV Show debut in April, is the most versatile high cube van range available in the UK. It is offered, dependent on model, with a choice of three trim levels and five powertrains (1 petrol/4 diesel).

As part of this powertrain choice, the 2012 Berlingo includes the advanced e-HDi 90 Airdream EGS6, which features micro-hybrid technology with Stop & Start and a six-speed automated manual gearbox that delivers CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of just 123g/km and combined cycle fuel economy figure of 60.1mpg.

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## SPORT

## Champs demolish dream of promotion

**Bridgnorth 5 Old Hales 2**  
OLD Halesowenians men's hockey firsts' last shot at promotion ended in defeat.

Three points would have given them a chance, but they were beaten by the undefeated champions and finished fourth in the West Midlands Premier.

In scorching heat, Hales were well-prepared but found Bridgnorth dominating the early possession.

However, the visitors' counter-attacking style soon led to several chances with Graham Knight hitting the bar after a deflection. Bridgnorth soon opened the scoring, after a mistake from Hales goalkeeper James Jones. But the visitors equalised with a spectacular goal from Knight.

Bridgnorth scored two quick goals and added a fourth before the break.

Paul Woodall scored in the second half to cut the home team's advantage to 4-2.

Hales dominated the second half, but Bridgnorth just soaked up all the pressure and added a fifth goal from a penalty corner drag flick late in the period.

**Old Hales 0 Warwick 6**  
Old Hales seconds suffered a heavy defeat at home to Warwick. A poor performance overall left the Hales team struggling to find a way through a well-organised Warwick side.

Warwick, fighting for promotion, clearly wanted the three points more than Hales who finished fifth in the second teams' West Midlands Premier.

Results: Rugby & East Warwick 0 Old Hales fourths 4, Old Hales Ladies 4 Bourneville 1.

## Last-gasp push wins cup place

**Girls League**  
**Halas Hawks U10 2**  
**Withymoor U10 0**

HALAS earned a cup final place after a tough game.

Withymoor's keeper kept them at bay until, with seven minutes left, Hannah Fellows volleyed into the top corner and Kirsty Hampton soon added a second.

**Halas Hawks U13 4**  
**Kinver Colts U13 0**

Halas had several chances in this cup-tie before Elizabeth Thomas grabbed a brace before half-time.

The second half followed the same pattern as Abigail Gennard scored two.

**Ferndale U14 1 Halas Hawks 4**

Four-goal Amy Blakemore got Halas in position with Mia Bell setting up two.



Boss Shaun Cunningham

## Late penalty breaks resistance

BOSS Shaun Cunningham was left fuming after 10-man Halesowen were denied a point at Poole Town thanks to a controversial late penalty.

The visitors looked worth a draw after holding the promotion-chasing Dolphins following Richard Huckfield's dismissal on the stroke of half-time.

But their hopes were hit when referee Robert Abrams adjudged substitute Jean-Michel Gueyes had fouled Carl Preston with three minutes to go, though there appeared to be little contact.

## Poole 1 Halesowen 0

Steve Devlin slammed home the spot-kick with Cunningham sent to the stand by Abrams following comments overheard by the assistant referee.

Poole had the better of the opening half of this Evo-Stik Division One South and West game and started to create openings after a slow start.

Devlin's free-kick was punched clear by Yeltz keeper Paul Evans on 20 minutes.

Evans also snuffed out danger at

the feet of Preston and Steve Richardson. Andrew Westwood cleared a Michael Walker header off the line and Richardson's close-range effort bobbed off the post as Cunningham's men soaked up plenty of pressure before the interval.

## Flailing

The first flashpoint came just before the break when Huckfield went into an aerial challenge with Marvin Brooks.

He caught him with a flailing arm and was instantly dismissed.

Despite their numerical disadvantage, Halesowen had the best two

chances of the second half. But Ben Haseley mistimed a header at the far post and then skewed his shot horribly wide when clean through on 55 minutes.

From there the pressure gradually grew and Poole got their breakthrough.

It was tough on the Yeltz, who will look back on some controversial refereeing decisions that ultimately proved costly in a tight game.

**Halesowen:** Evans, Westwood, Kelly, Smith, Huckfield, Saunders, M Jackson, N Jackson, Jones (Cotterill 64, Gueyes 82), Haseley, Caines.

**Subs not used:** Flower, Hill.

**Referee:** R Abrams.

**Attendance:** 426.

## Defence holds out but finally breached

**Boys League**  
**Halas Hawks U9 East 0**  
**Penn Colts U9 4**

A GOOD defensive first half saw Halas keep the game scoreless by the interval.

But Penn maintained their pressure in the second half to score four goals and run out comfortable winners.

Halas player of the match was Jack Plant.

**Halas Hawks U10 East 2**  
**CS Colts U10 West 1**

Halas played well in the first half and went in at the break two goals up through Charlie Greening and Oliver Miller.

CS came back into it in the second half and scored, but Halas dug in and held out to take all the points.

Halas player of the match was dominant midfielder Louie Jones.

**Forest Falcons U11 East 0**  
**Halas Hawks U11 West 1**

West started strongly taking control of the game and were rewarded with a well-taken goal by Jack MacFarlane.

They continued to push but were held out by a determined defence and excellent goalkeeping.

The Falcons created chances but could not get an equaliser. Halas player of the match was George Shingleton.

**Halas Hawks U12 2**  
**Glassboys U12 1**

Mohamed Yafai got the Halas opener and Nick Bennett added a second with Shaddad Dael their player of the match.

**Halas Hawks U14 1**  
**Halesowen Town U14 3**

Three first-half goals were enough to secure victory in this cup-tie for Halesowen Town Colts.

Halas fought back in the second half and reduced the deficit thanks to a well-worked goal from Dominic Hipkiss.

Their player of the match was Joshua Mason.

**Halas Hawks U13 1**  
**Dudley Sports U13 5**

Depleted Halas started well and should have taken the lead in the first minute but Dudley went ahead with their first attack.

Halas were soon level with a goal strike from Cameron Milne but Dudley went on to win 5-1.

Halas player of the match was Callum Hudson.

**Ashmore Park U15 4**  
**Halas Hawks U15 1**

Three own goals helped Ashmore Park sink Halas, whose goal came from Mitchell Tomlinson.

## Albion 1 Newcastle Utd 3

**FOOTBALL, like all sports, comes down to a matter of timing.**

Albion boss Roy Hodgson chose the weekend to set out his stall for his Hawthorns future and his England aspirations.

Yet his players chose Sunday to turn in one of their most abject 45-minute displays since he took charge over a year ago.

An emphatic defeat to a red-hot Newcastle will do little to puncture the bubble of positivity surrounding Hodgson and his side after an impressive month of victories that preceded a mini-stumble in their last three games. But just when Hodgson might have wanted his players to add some weight to his pre-match media messages, they tripped up in spectacular style.

On Friday he used the issue of Ben Foster's future to deliver his strongest message yet about the robust recruitment required to keep him in the Midlands.

And 24 hours later he offered his most candid views on his England ambitions since Fabio Capello's sudden departure left the FA with a vacancy to fill.

But on Sunday his players were woefully short of the levels that have made their experienced gaffer so highly-prized at his club and genuinely talked about as a possible manager of his country.

One poor game should barely leave a scratch on a coaching CV constructed over three solid decades in countless corners of the globe, yet in an age where the last result does more to shape public opinion than ever before, he could have done with a leg-up from his troops all the same.

For all their clear strides in Hodgson's first year at the helm, Albion found themselves outplayed by a side whose superior resources allow them to pluck the tastier morsels from the same transfer table at which Albion aspire to dine.

The build-up to kick-off was impressive,



Marc-Antoine Fortune on the ball for the Baggies

with T-shirts in support of stricken Bolton player Fabrice Muamba, the return of young vocalist Emily Badger to herald the team's arrival with *The Lord's My Shepherd*, and a touching minute's applause in honour of late Hawthorns hero Ray Barlow.

Yet Hodgson's men could not match the rousing pre-match events with a similar show of togetherness in the opening half and were staring down the barrel of a Newcastle gun inside 12 minutes.

Aside from a shot over Tim Krul's crossbar from Youssouf Mulumbu in the opening seconds, a lethargic, sluggish Baggies were blown away in the opening 45 minutes by a Magpies team operating with the kind of style and swagger that befitted their impressive placing in the thick of the race for



Shane Long, right, celebrates his goal with Peter Odemwingie

Europe. The home crowd watched as their side's defence was carved open with ease on six minutes with a fabulous pass from Jonas Gutierrez finding Hatem Ben Arfa, who crossed from the left for Papiss Cisse to sweep home the opener. Six minutes later a Baggies defence that had been miserly in recent weeks went missing again.

Yohan Cabaye's delicious volleyed pass inside his own half sent Ben Arfa racing forward and he exchanged simple passes with Cisse before stepping too easily away from Jonas Olsson to finish.

Had Marc-Antoine Fortune headed under the crossbar instead of over it on 27 minutes, momentum might have shifted.

But 11 minutes before the interval the game was up as the Magpies' pace, power

and movement again proved too much for Albion and Demba Ba and Ben Arfa combined to tie-up Cisse for his second.

The introduction of Shane Long as one of two half-time substitutes helped the Baggies improve markedly after the break.

The hard-working Irishman got his reward on 52 minutes when he pounced on a collision between Mike Williamson and Krul and bundled home the loose ball.

For a few brief moments, Baggies were a shade brighter. But Alan Pardew's impressive side weathered that minor storm.

By the time Albion stumbled past full-time with 10 men following James Morrison's worrying injury, they and their gaffer were grateful to escape with respectability intact.

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# SPORT

## Long way

Shane's goal cannot lift the Baggies  
**Page 43**



## Late blow

Brave Yeltz are sunk by penalty  
**Page 43**

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## Reshape of squad for high-level campaign

NEW skipper Danny Cox has continued his Old Hill cricket overhaul with a raft of new signings.

Cox, who will undertake his first season in charge at Haden Hill, has reshaped the squad for their forthcoming Birmingham League Division One campaign.

Worcestershire paceman Jack Shantry will be Old Hill's contracted player this summer while Cox has enticed wicket-keeper Ian Walker from divisional rivals Wombourne.

Cox has also tempted Loughborough MCCU teammate Dmitri Ratnayake to make the switch to the West Midlands.

The Sri Lankan is a top order batsman who can also bowl off-spin and he will be joined by three more new arrivals.

Cox's bowling options have been increased by the signing of seamers Bilal Mohammed and Humais Butt from West Bromwich Dartmouth and Coventry & North Warwick respectively.

Left-handed middle-order batsman Arsalan Mahmood completes the list of newcomers having moved from Attock.

"I am excited by the signings we have made," said Cox. "We have signed some young players who feel they have something to prove while the arrival of Ian Walker will bring add some invaluable experience to the side. There is a lot of potential and it's up to the players to battle for a place."

## Ripper has too much for veteran

HALESOWEN boxer Zak the Ripper – real name Saquib Amir – had a win on the undercard of the Shane McPhilbin-Enzo Maccarelli British cruiserweight title bout.

The Ripper, last bout on at Wolverhampton Civic Hall, went into his third professional fight against able Walsall veteran Delroy Spencer. The featherweights ran the ropes and Spencer, competing in his 151st pro contest at the age of 43, gave it a go but the Ripper ran out the points winner, by 39-37.

The British Boxing Board of Control has promised an investigation after round one of the main bout ended 47 seconds short with Maccarelli, who went on to a points win, seemingly out on his feet after being decked.

# Title secured with win in final game



Hales keeper Ade Lockyer

OLD HALESONIANS men's hockey thirds clinched their first league title since 2007/08 in a hard-fought and nerve-racking final game of the season at Finchfield.

With news before the game that Bridgnorth had taken all three points, only a win would ensure Old Hales would be crowned champions.

They got the victory – but had to fight back from a goal down to achieve it.

The game started at a good pace, but on a slow pitch, which suited Finchfield better, the home side won

## Finchfield 1 Old Halesonians 2

some early penalty corners and keeper Ade Lockyer made some excellent saves.

As the game went on Hales settled, and forced the home keeper into action. But just as Old Hales began to increase the pressure on their opposition, Finchfield counter-attacked and took the lead.

Almost immediately Hales hit back as Adam Hill scored his 32nd goal of the season with a fine strike into the bottom left-hand corner to

put the teams all square at half-time. The second period saw Hales go desperately close as Dan Millichap hit the post, Hill dived in at the back pass and just missed the ball and a flick from Matt Harrold was saved at point-blank range by the keeper.

Chance after chance passed with time running out for the Hales side.

With just 12 minutes remaining Old Hales were awarded a penalty flick after a goalbound effort was

stopped on the line by a defender's foot. Damian Shackleton took responsibility but his shot was saved.

In the final 10 minutes, Hales gambled and changed to a 3-4-3 formation, which paid off swiftly as Shackleton slapped the ball home.

Even then, Old Hales had to soak up massive amounts of pressure with Lockyer again the saviour.

The final whistle finally allowed Old Hales to celebrate a victory, promotion and the title crown in West Midlands Division One.

More reports – Page 43

# I'M TRYING TO WIN A CONTRACT – KEITH

ALBION midfielder Keith Andrews has admitted he is "in the shop window" as the Baggies keep contract talks on hold.

The Ireland international hopes to secure a new deal at The Hawthorns before the Euro 2012 summer tournament.

But the 31-year-old admitted he must also catch the eye of other clubs in the last eight games of the Premier League campaign in case the Baggies do not come up with an offer.

"I am sure it will get sorted," said Andrews. "The club have said that."

"If they want to wait a while that's fine by me. If they want to take a chance and leave it, they can do that by all means."

"From my point of view I am in the shop window here and that was always the plan anyway."

"I came here for six months and I am trying my best to earn a contract."

"Hopefully it will be here, but if it's not, it's not."

## Believes

Andrews turned his back on another year on his contract at Blackburn to sign for an initial six months at The Hawthorns.

And the former Wolves trainee believes the ball is now in Albion's court when it comes to a potential contract extension.

"I am here to enjoy my football," said Andrews.

"Obviously, losing on Sunday wasn't enjoyable but I am here to crack on and I have certainly got one eye on the summer and the Euros."

"If the club want to talk to me they know where I am and from my point of view I am happy here for the time being and we will see what happens."

"I am feeling good physically and enjoying training."

by Steve Madeley

It's a good club to be at the moment so I am looking to go into the summer in good form."

Andrews was replaced at half-time in Sunday's 3-1 defeat to Newcastle as part of tactical shake-up by boss Roy Hodgson.

And he insisted he understood the boss's reasons for the substitution.

"No-one in our team can be delighted with their performance," said Andrews.

"The manager said in the dressing room that if anyone thinks they have done well, they need to have a good look in the mirror."

"I got taken off at half-time and I don't take it personally. You have to take it on the chin when you are 3-0 down at half-time."

Meanwhile, assistant boss Keith Downing has hailed midfielder James Morrison as the club's player of the season.

And he may yet play again this season after injury forced off during Sunday's 3-1 defeat to Newcastle.

Scans on his knee have confirmed medial ligament damage rather than a more serious cruciate.

Downing said of him: "In my view, he's been consistently our best performer."

## New-boys getting set for their race debut



The 2012 Dudley Heathens side face the camera. From left, chairman Nigel Pearson, Darryl Ritchings, James White-Williams, Byron Bekker, team manager Will Pottinger, captain Adam Roynon, Tom Perry, Dan Greenwood, Ashley Morris and club partner Gary Patchett. Picture: John Hippkiss Photography

DUDLEY Heathens hand a debut to their first leg lead ready for the return at Loomer Road on Saturday, April 14.

He said: "It would be a great way to start the season for us to win against Stoke, because they have some top riders to spearhead their team and we will have to be on our toes."

"But I'd like to think we have some strength in depth here this season – and that could be the key."

"We also have riders who are desperate to break into the Premier League and progress their career so

they have to do well for us and make promoters sit up and take notice of them."

"After the long winter, it's time for the action to start and hopefully we can start in style."

Pottinger says his riders have prepared well with a track day at Stoke under the supervision of new team coach, Heathens legend and former world champion Jan O Pedersen.

Pottinger added: "The boys will be ready for Tuesday. We had a good day up at Stoke."

## Soaring Finch sets records in the pool

HALESOWEN Swimming Club members grabbed four senior and four junior titles at the Worcester County Championships.

Redditch led the medal table with 147 top-three finishes, Stourbridge 135 and joint-third Halesowen 133.

Halesowen also had six in the top six of their age group.

Stars were senior title winners Chloe Robbins in the 100m individual medley and 50m butterfly; Chloe Finch in the 1500m freestyle and Josh Bradley in the 100m individual medley.

Junior champions were Finch, 1500m freestyle, 400m individual medley and 200m butterfly, and Jacob Darby, 100m freestyle.

In the overall age group runners-up were Finch, India Hanke and Mark Laing. James Benson and Ben Meakin were third and Lauren Hill fourth.

In individual events Finch had nine firsts, Hanke five, Laing four and Robbins three. Other winners were Rebecca Spoor and Meakin.

Finch set six championship best performances and won the Alan Babb trophy for breaking a record by the largest margin in the 1500m freestyle.

Laing set two best times and Hanke one.

## George's goal is not enough

Hasbury U14 1 Droitwich U14 1 A LATE goal denied the Hasbury girls victory.

They started the brighter and might have scored when Becky Hurley found Leah George who lost her marker only to shoot at the keeper.

Hurley skimmed the bar then George's shot deflected in off Meg Harrison. Droitwich got a late equaliser.

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